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THE CLOSING YEAR.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY H. B. H.

Let us sit down, my soul, in the twilight
And take up the past in review;
Let us balance accounts with the Old Year
Before we begin with the New.

There are moments we've squandered or wasted,
Blighted hours which we cannot recall,
And the bookkeeper Time in his daybook
Has carefully noted them all.

Has he charged us with cruel words spoken,
With acts and intents to deceive?
Are there hearts that our conduct has broken,
And who o'er our faithlessness grieve?

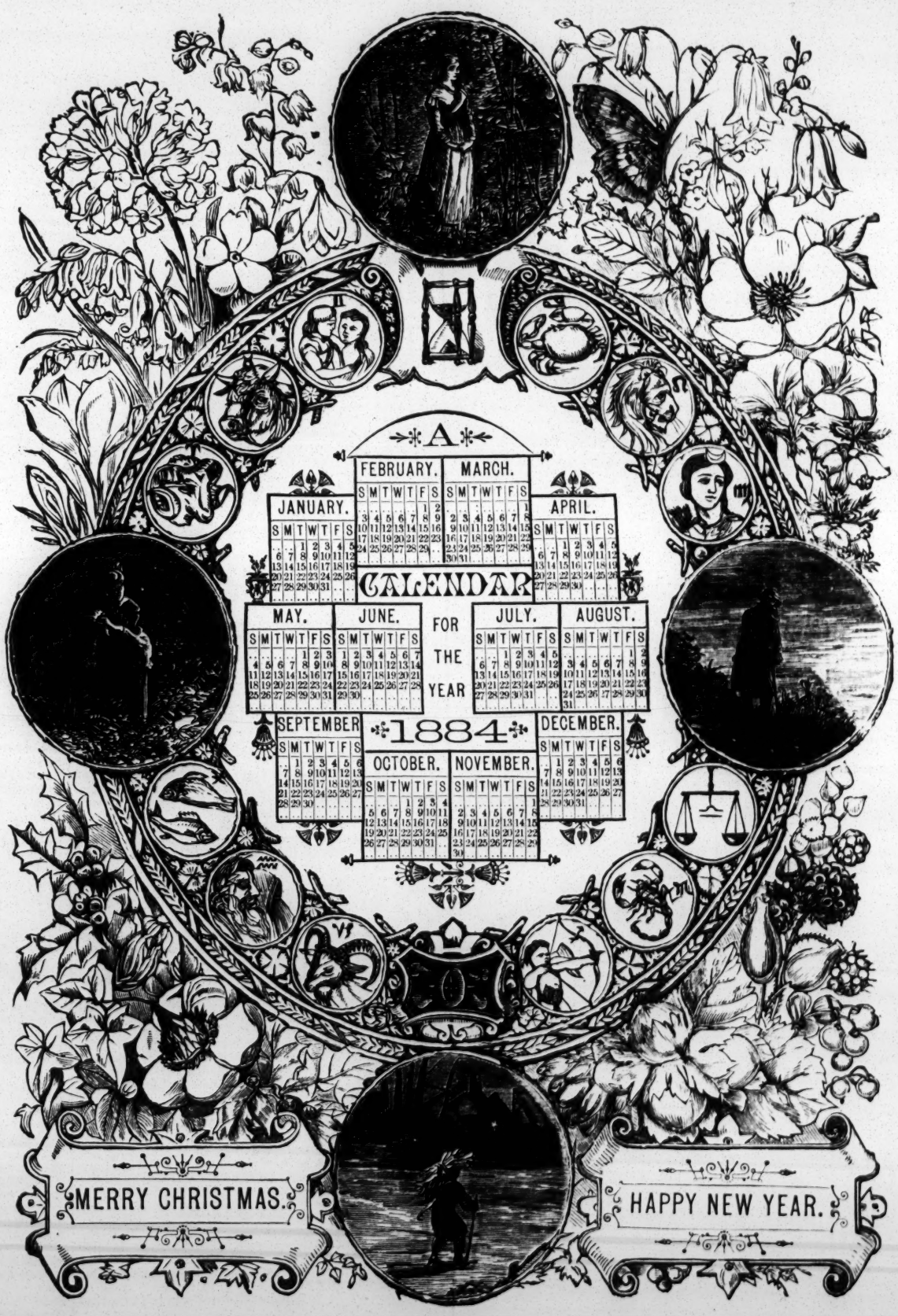
Have we turned from the cry of the needy,
Nor listed the sufferer's call?
Have we walked in the path of the Tempter,
And hissed when the weaker would fall?

If the bookkeeper Time to our credit
Some kindness has marked by the way;
Some burdens we've striven to lighten,
Some griefs we have tried to allay—

If by labor and kindness we've lifted
Some outcast from darkness and sin,
And sought to the sweet paths of virtue
Their faltering footsteps to win—

If we've given of food to the hungry,
The cold and the destitute clad,
Have comforted mourners in sorrow,
And the hearts of the sick have made glad—

Then, methinks, the kind Father in heaven
These items will take in review,
And square our accounts with the Old Year
Before we begin with the New.



A MINSTREL'S CHRISTMAS LUCK,

OR HOW LEM CARROL JOINED THE ELKS.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY NATHAN D. URNER.

"Curse the luck!" growled Lem Carrol to himself. "I own to having been pinched at holiday season before this, but may I never pick a banjo again if this isn't the all-firedest, meanest, dirtiest piece of Christmas luck that ever struck me!"

He then moved uneasily in his easychair, and, glancing from his helpless, bandaged leg to a cheap, little, round clock that was ticking self-importantly over the chimney-shelf, and wondered if it was not almost time for his wife's return; for she had quitted him half-an-hour before, on an errand sad and momentous to both of them—the pawning of his last valuable, the seal-ring with her picture in it, which she had given him before their marriage, for the wherewithal to pay the doctor and keep the pot boiling till he should get on his feet again.

Lem's hard luck may be described in a few words.

It was Christmas-day, and he was stranded, with his young wife, their one child and a broken leg, in a large Western city, where he was an utter stranger. After meeting with his disabling accident, the minstrel troupe with which he had been playing had passed on its way, leaving him behind, with such contributions towards his support as its members had been able to afford. This had been but little, for the troupe was in an unlucky streak; and, moreover, his connection with it had been too brief for him to cultivate any of those solid friendships that are apt to stick by a fellow through thick and thin in the hour of need.

Then he had all along in his career abstained from joining the Elks' Benevolent Order—chiefly at his wife's entreaties—for she feared the Elks, with a woman's fear, as a dreadfully wild, convivial association that would do him more harm than good; his small stock of money had been spent at the threshold of his misfortune; his wife's delicate health precluded the idea of her working at anything, for his temporary support, though she had vainly sought for employment without his knowledge; he could not call to mind a professional or other friend within five hundred miles of C——, and he was too proud to ask for public assistance, though of talents by no means inconspicuous in his vocation.

It was, indeed, with reason that he now cursed his Christmas luck. He was almost as helpless, hopeless and miserable as a shipwrecked mariner on a desert coast, and that, too—by a sort of sarcasm of destiny—in the midst of ringing and abundant holiday cheer that was only phantomlike and unreal for him and his.

Presently, however, there came the well-known footsteps on the rickety stair, and Mary, Lew's wife, entered the wretched room, preceded by their little girl Lulu, who with dancing eyes brandished a poor, cheap little doll over her head.

"See, papa!" cried the child, rushing into her father's arms. "Santy Tlaus no forget me—I dot a doll!"

Mary Carrol, though careworn, was still a bright, pretty woman, a long way on the right side of thirty; but there was now an unwonted flurry in her manner which she was at great pains to conceal.

"The poor child!" said she, laughing nervously, while Lulu still claimed the most of her father's attention. "I had to buy her something, for the shop-windows set her wild. But then I got twelve dollars on the ring—think of that!—though I had to interview three different pawnbrokers to effect a bargain. Oh, dear!"

She hastily put down some groceries she had brought and busied herself about the scanty fire with a great show of *nonchalance;* but her husband's troubled eye was upon her.

"Of course everything's all right, Molly," said he. "But what is the matter? Something has happened."

"Why, what can you mean, Lem, dear? Really ——"

"It was bad mannee!" broke in the child. "Bad mannee make mamma cry—den good mannee knock bad mannee down! Den mamma and Lulu runned away!"

Here Molly broke down entirely and began to cry again.

"What! has any one dared insult you?" thundered the invalid, and then, bethinking himself of the child's presence, he just cut short the ready oath in time. "I hear some other little girls playing out yonder in the hall, pet," he added, controlling himself with an effort while again kissing the child. "Go and show them your new doll."

Then, as Lulu disappeared, he said nothing more, though his brow was still stormy, but merely opened wide his arms to his wife.

"There, there!" he murmured, as she was sobbing on his breast. "By Jupiter! if I were but my own self again, no one would dare ——. But this is no good! Tell me all about it, my darling!"

"O Lem, dear! it really amounted to little, though it shook me up somewhat at the time," Mary at last managed to exclaim. "The fellow was one of a party, and they were all intoxicated, I suppose. He merely persisted in trying to speak to me, familiarly, at a shop-window."

"Humph! Why didn't you tell me the first thing after you came in?"

"Can you ask? Haven't you enough already to worry about?"

Lem kissed her tenderly.

"Well, go on," said he. "You found a chance rescuer.'

"Yes; such a capital, unpretentious, gentlemanly fellow, Lem. Lulu didn't tell all. He struck twice instead of once. It was all over in a minute. He saw how annoyed and frightened I was. Then there were two blows from his shoulder like two flashes of lightning; my persecutor and one of his more boisterous companions were lying in the gutter, as if by magic, and then my rescuer was conducting me out of the crowd and around a convenient corner as easily and matter-of-coursedly as if I had been his sister."

"Good boy!" cried Lem, slapping his well thigh delightedly. "By Jove! I'll search him out—I'll thank him in my own person without a minute's delay. Ugh! but I reckon I won't, either, just yet awhile." And he glanced dejectedly at his disabled leg. "Well, well, that was the end of it, Molly, of course?"

"N-n-n-o, Lem, not quite. I—I—you see, everyone in the crowd seemed to know who he was, and to accord him so much respect that when he ventured to put a few questions to me—oh, in such a delicate, gentlemanly way!—I—I—pray don't be angry, Lem!—I told him my name, and about you, and—and just a little about our unhappy circumstances."

Lem's face clouded. He was as touchy as a ruined hidalgo with regard to the privacy of his misfortunes. But Molly was so unaffectedly contrite that he couldn't scold.

"Well, then, if it's already done it can't be helped," said he, kissing her again. "Anything else?"

"Very little, dear. He at first seemed greatly interested, and asked me if you belonged to the Elks. But after I had answered No, besides telling him that it was all my fault you hadn't joined long ago, he seemed to grow preoccupied. After that he merely asked me our address, seemingly more out of ordinary politeness than anything else, lifted his hat, and was gone."

"Ah, that was one of my big mistakes, Molly!" sighed Lem discontentedly. "If I were now but affiliated with that or some similar brotherhood, this might be a different sort of Christmas day for us!" And he looked sadly around the miserable, half-furnished apartment they occupied, which did duty as kitchen, bedroom, living-room and all.

"Forgive me for having dissuaded you so long from your best interests, Lem," murmured the little wife, pressing her hot cheek to his. "But I knew no better—I meant all for the best, and I did so want to keep you all to myself, dear!"

"Of course you did, and therefore, of course, there's nothing to forgive!" cried Lem with his best-natured laugh. "Come, now. We can at least afford a little, pick-up Christmas dinner presently, and then the remainder of those twelve dollars must see me through with my convalescence somehow. Thank the Lord! the rent for this hole is paid up to the end of the month."

Inspirited afresh by his restored good-humor, Molly was busying herself with some small cooking an hour later, while Lem was looking over a newspaper, when Lulu came tripping in, with her doll in her arms, to say that someone wanted to see her mother on the lower stairs.

Mrs. Carrol had made the gossiping acquaintance of a number of her neighbors in the tenement, the majority of whom were almost as badly off as she. There was, therefore, nothing unusual in the message just received, which caused Mary to quit the room at once, leaving Lulu behind to chat with Lem.

But five, ten and fifteen minutes elapsed without bringing her back, and her husband began to wonder what had become of her.

"Suppose you run down and see where mamma is, pet," said he at last. "Of course you know which of our neighbors below asked to see her."

But Lulu did not know. The message had simply been called up the semi-darkness of the stairs from somewhere far down below, by exactly whom she was unable to say.

"Well, well, I fancy the dinner will hardly have a chance to cook away before she comes back," said Lem, again drawing the child to his side; "though there isn't such a Christmas abundance of it to cook away, for that matter," and he laughed in a way that he could not help from being a little bitter.

Then he began to sing his child a comic song. And a capital singer Lem was, too, by the way, though now the thought of his banjo, on which he was wont to accompany himself, being "up the spout" brought on renewed lowness of spirits, and he broke off impatiently.

"What the deuce can be going on in that big empty room next door?" he exclaimed presently. "Seems like someone was moving around in there, and I hear a rattling as of dishes and things. See if you can find a crack to peep through in those big folding-doors there, pet. The Lord forbid that that club of young scamps who were kicked out of it a fortnight ago have obtained a renewal of their lease for a Christmas blow-out

The small room which the Carrols occupied at the top of a lofty barracks-like tenement-house had doubtless at some time or other been a sort of anteroom to the great empty apartment or loft that Lem alluded to, from which it was divided off by broad, close-fastened, old-style folding doors.

Lulu searched in vain for some friendly chink in the partition that might afford her some notion of what was taking place on the o'her side of it.

"All dark, papa; I tan't see nothin'," she said in her vexed, childish tone. "Must be bad boys tum back again, papa."

"Like enough, and to sing, howl and swear all day and half the night, as they did before!" grumbled Lem. "Run out in the hallway, pet, and see if it's the same gang taking up their old quarters. Why didn't I think of that way of finding out before?"

Before the child could obey him the door from the hall was opened, and her mother re-entered the room. She was twice as flurried now as when she had returned from the pawnbroker's, but in an amazingly different way. Her face was flushed, her eyes were sparkling, her whole demeanor was perturbed with pleasurable excitement, and yet there was an odd air of mystery and expectancy about her, too.

"Don't go into the passage, Lulu—at least not now!" she faltered, barring the child's outgoing movement, closing the door behind her and tremblingly facing them both. "O Lem!"

"Where have you been so long, Molly, and what on earth has come over you?" cried her husband, completely mystified. "One would imagine it to have been something unearthly, save that you're looking so happy."

"Yes, dear, something so strange, so unexpected, so delightful!" she stammered in reply, while wheeling his chair around in a way that caused him to face the dividing-line in the folding-doors. "But, you see, I'm not at liberty to tell you any more just yet. Just have a little patience, and then, maybe —"

She was interrupted by a crash of music from the adjoining apartment—the crash of a full minstrel band in its grand-overture selection; and then—simultaneously, and while the overture clashed and dashed along into form, motive and harmony—the great doors were suddenly thrown back, disclosing a scene that struck Lem dumb with astonishment and evoked screams of delight from the enraptured child.

A table groaning with a hundred smoking dishes of holiday cheer, with bottles of wine ready for the uncorking, and every imaginable good thing, occupied the centre of the great room. There were seats and covers placed for fifteen or twenty, and a group of neatly dressed, white-napkined professional waiters stood respectfully waiting at either end. Then the otherwise bleak and forbidding walls were hung with Christmas evergreens, intertwining appropriate mottoes and emblems, while a glorious soft-coal fire sparkled and blazed in an ample open grate at one side. But best of all was the full band of negro minstrels itself, which was furnishing the music, as it had doubtless also furnished the feast of the festive occasion. Its smiling members made up the magic semi-circle, so dear to Lem's minstrel heart, on a slightly raised platform, as a sort of background for the prospective banquet; and there they were, in all the glory of burnt cork, extravagant shirt-fronts and unimpeachable claw-hammers, doing their level best with the fiddle, the banjo, the flute and all the other instruments belonging to the profession, not forgetting the middle-man with his triangle, and the bones and tambourine at their respective ends.

"Now, Mr. Bones," cried out the Tambourine, as the overture wound up with a musical crash, "kin you tell me what am de silent but bestest musical notes dat hab called forth our 'lustrious presence on dis momountainous Christmas awkasion?"

"Yes, I kin tell, Brudder Smiff," was the reply, "an' dat's why I gub it up. What am de silent but bestest musical notes you hab reverence to, Brudder Smiff?"

"De notes dat am sweet to respon' to, specially on dis Christmas-day, Mr. Bones—de notes ob de Carrols in distress! Yah, yah, yah!"

Mrs. Carrol blushed with anything but displeasure, Lulu clapped her hands and laughed, she scarcely knew why, and before Lem had time to be angry or gratified over the liberty that had been taken, the band—at a signal from the middle-man, in whom Mary now recognized her preserver—tuned up once more.

"Now, gentlemen," said he, "suppose we give our mellifluous voices their first airing in that little improvisation, hastily compiled for this especial occasion, 'The Helping Hand,' if you please."

With that, he led off, and the following impromptu air was given with much sincerity and expression:

Another year has passed away,
Again 'tis Christmas morn;
Let us with kindness crown the day
On which our Lord was born.
Chorus and repeat.
Then help one another, boys,
And do it with a will;
We'll never push a man because
He's going down hill!

The Christmas chimes are in the air,
At dire Misfortune's call,
Our little lives we'll model fair
On His who died for all.
Chorus and repeat.
Then help one another, boys,
And do it with a will,
For here's a handgrip for the man
That's half-way down the hill!

Lem Carroll was so deeply moved that he could hardly speak, when the minstrels, at another signal from their conductor as the song died away, suddenly broke ranks in a body, and made a hospitable rush for him and his.

"Who are you, boys, anyway?" he managed to ask amid the general handshakings and congratulations that ensued, and while they were wheeling him up to the banqueting-board. "This is almost too much! Do I know any of you personally?"

"Perhaps not, though you're known to many of us by reputation, Mr. Carrol," replied the leader genially. "We're merely a band of chance well-wishers, got up from among our Order of Elks in this city on short notice to help a fellow-performer somewhat down in his luck. So say no more at present, but fall to; for we're going to look after you, my boy, from this Merry Christmas out, until you're fairly on your feet again!"

And he meant everything he said. The dinner was an immense success. It is hardly necessary to add that Lem Carrol subsequently joined the Elks, without a particle of opposition on the part of his wife. He was, moreover, soon thriving in his chosen career once more, and both he and his family will ever retain the liveliest remembrances of that festive surprise-party which so happily changed "A MINSTREL'S CHRISTMAS LUCK."

TALMA AND NAPOLEON.

I once heard an old dramatist relate an anecdote, which may or may not have found its way into print. As long ago as 1788 or 1789 he was walking in the Rue St. Honore with his friend Talma, then at the commencement of his career, when a young officer in a shabby lieutenant's uniform met them, and said to the actor: "Remember to-morrow." Talma nodded assent, and the other passed on. "Who is that?" inquired my informant. "The torment of my life," was the reply. "A young fellow without a sou, who is perpetually plaguing me for tickets of admission to the theatre. Not a bad judge, I must say," he continued. "Knows all our classics by heart, and won't listen to anything but Corneille and Racine." Some twenty years later the two friends chanced to meet again in the Place du Carrousel, at the very moment when Napoleon was starting for his daily ride. On seeing Talma he stopped his horse and spoke a few words to him. When he had left them, the tragedian, turning to his companion, asked if he recollected the young lieutenant who used formerly to bother him for tickets. On the latter's confessing that he had quite forgotten the circumstance, "Ah," observed Talma, "I have more reason to remember him than you have. He is Emperor now, and I am still a poor devil of an actor; but you see that he has not forgotten me. Only," he added with a smile, "he has no need to ask me for free admissions now!"—*Longman's Magazine.*

SANTA CLAUS' GIFT.

A LEGEND OF NORMANDY.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER, BY EDMUND LYONS.

Joyous midnight bells are ringing,
I can hear their music light,
Tender recollections bringing
Of a Norman Christmas-night.
Normandy, in simple glory,
Rises up before my gaze,
And I seem to hear the story
That I heard in other days.

In that happy land, vine-scented,
Dwelt a peasant and his wife,
Poor but frugal, and contented
With their lowly lot in life.
But to-night their little daughter—
Fair and pure as flowers of May—
Tells what Santa Claus had brought her
On a bygone Christmas-day.

And her parents hear in sorrow—
Poor, so poor, are they to-night
That they know that on the morrow
No bright gifts will greet her sight.
What though Santa Claus may labor
In his sleigh, with coat of fur,
Leaving toys with every neighbor,
Nothing will he have for her.

And the mother, sadly rocking
Her little, tired child to rest,
Sees, through blinding tears, a stocking
Fast against the window pressed.
Well she knows the little fingers
Must explore its depths in vain,
And beside the bed she lingers,
Feeling all a mother's pain.

Midnight! Christmas-day is greeted
On the street with quaint old rhymes;
The peasant and his wife are seated,
Listening to the Norman chimes.
A knock! They look at one another
As a joy-lit face they see:
"Santa Claus came early, mother;
See what he has brought for me!"

All amazed, they saw their daughter,
And a wondrous tale they heard:
How the Christmas King had brought her—
Just a little frozen bird!
Driven in by stress of weather,
A sparrow flew in dire need;
He and Christmas came together—
Santa Claus' gift, indeed!

A KNICKERBOCKER'S CHRISTMAS.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER, BY COL. THOMAS PICTON.

"Merry Christmas! What are people to be merry about at Christmas any more than at any other time, I'd like to know."

Thus muttered Jacobus Van Dam, the money-lender, one of the few usurers of old-time New York, by whose inhabitants the practice of loaning upon interest was held in no high esteem. Nevertheless, even among the staid and plodding Knickerbockers there were many parents blessed with harem-scarum sons whose extravagance, generally in matters of hospitality, induced repeated visits to the house of Mr. Van Dam, who, in his turn, earned the reprobation, if not the sovereign contempt, of many sturdy burghers of the old school upon ascertaining the source whence flowed the financial stream threatening to inundate their lands with a deluge of liens and mortgages.

Jacobus Van Dam, a lineal descendant of the famous Alderman Rip Van Dam, had been born wealthy, as the inheritor of the family homestead located in the midst of some dozen acres in the immediate suburbs of the city, in close proximity to the Bowery lane, a popular avenue, cutting in twain the Bayard farm and terminating in the meadows adjoining the mansion of the doughty Peter Stuyvesant.

Jacobus Van Dam owned to but one love—that of money-making, inasmuch as to the fascinations of the fair sex he had proven as unsusceptible, if not more so, than St. Anthony during the keenest trial of temptation. No woman had ever been allowed to cross his threshold, save Dinah, a superannuated negro crone, who cooked his meals, managed his household and smoked her pipe—sole mistress of the chimney-corner—over the smouldering remnants of a kitchen fire of hickory logs.

Personally, Mr. Van Dam was good-looking, carrying his forty years with dignity and grace, as he was habitually attired in plain, well-fitting garments, and bestowed more than ordinary attention upon his curling hair, clustering in formidable locks over an expansive forehead. He was, moreover, a good-natured man in other than money matters, who had trained his temper to a wonderful elasticity, so as to be all things to all men. Well-educated and naturally industrious, Jacobus might have been a superior lawyer or trader; but he disliked talking in public, and despised the monotonous routine of commercial life. Instinctively contemplative, Van Dam, afflicted as he was with a devotion to Mammon, preferred seclusion, wherein he could meditate upon financial combinations and gloat at his ease upon the products of his money-lending energies.

It was Christmas-eve, and Jacobus, seated in his deceased father's armchair, was leaning his elbows upon a solid inlaid desk of ebony and oak, poring over the contents of a ledger, whence he occasionally extracted figures to compare with those upon a balance-sheet, which he was proving by repeated additions.

"All right now, and a good year's work," he said in self-communion. "Only one bad debt, and that is young scapegrace Bogardus, who has mortgaged property which will not come to him until after the death or marriage of his brother's widow."

Van Dam closed the ledger and turned his chair around to face the fireplace, wherein blazed a dozen logs of wood heaped upon massive andirons, tipped with huge brazen imitation pineapples. The chimney-piece was of vast dimensions, faced and framed with Dutch tiles of white porcelain, decorated with pictorial illustrations of Scripture history in the brightest of bright blue outlines, drawings somewhat primitive in design, yet pregnant with instructive meaning. These pictures composed Jacobus' manual of religious devotion, inasmuch as he had persistently declined attendance at church upon ascertaining that a system of pewrent had been introduced by some enterprising dominie, in imitation of Down-east clerical practices. In view of this innovation he preached for himself at his own fireside, taking the biblical tablets of the fireplace as his texts, suggestive of practical virtues. There were before his eyes in enameled ware Toby and his dog, Jonah and the whale, Cain and Abel, and a host of other illustrations of Scriptural heroism and humiliations, and what better subjects for sermons could be needed by a man of reflection?

The tall Dutch clock, whose complicated dial disclosed not only the flight of time, but also the phases of the moon and the ebbing of the tides, ticked most monotonously in the corner of Jacobus' parlor by the side of a massive sideboard of solid mahogany, upon whose polished top glistened antique tankards of chiseled silver, interspersed among pot-bellied decanters of cut-glass, adorned with foliage traced in golden lines, and square bottles, rich in many glowing hues. Hours rolled unheaded by until the sharp, deep-toned bell of the ancient timepiece sounded the midnight hour; whereupon the meditative Van Dam aroused himself from his reverie. He had been lost in the brownest of a brown study, musing upon that Bogardus debt.

He had been gazing mechanically upon the bright flames as they arose from the blazing logs heaped with unwonted prodigality upon the broad hearthstone within the highly-ornamented chimney-piece. As he watched the glowing fire, there appeared in its midst a panorama of familiar scenes, faithful reproductions of incidents in his former existence, perpetually changing, first brilliantly visible, then fading gradually from view, to be replaced by other and more exciting pictures of halcyon days in his earlier youth.

Suddenly Jacobus Van Dam started and opened his eyes wide in astonishment as he perceived that he was no longer alone. Although he had heard neither the opening of the door nor the tread of entering feet, yet he observed within a few feet of him the figure of a man, a stranger, whom he did not remember to have ever previously seen. The visitor was an aged gentleman, with long gray locks and a round, ruddy-hued face, beaming with good humor as his small, sharp eyes twinkled and his puffy cheeks shook with suppressed merriment. He was habited in a long fur overcoat, which he unbuttoned leisurely to disclose an under-suit of dressed buckskin, trimmed with beaver fringe, and coarse leggings of buffalo hide, the woolly side out, tapering from his mid-thighs down to his feet, which were inclosed in bead-wrought moccasins. Upon his head the stranger wore a round, gray fox-skin cap, the animal's thick and bushy tail streaming down his back, while his hands were incased in stout, closely-knit mittens of decidedly domestic fabrication.

"Merry Christmas!" said the intruder, in a rollicking tone of voice, as he divested himself of his outer garment and flung his cap upon the table.

"I have come to see you, Jacobus Van Dam, for I am an old friend, although you don't know it."

The aged individual laughed until his body shook from head to foot, and then he sank uninvited into a leathern-backed chair which he had drawn from a corner of the parlor and placed in the cosiest section of the chimney-corner.

"Who are you? I don't know you," remarked Jacobus, somewhat amazed at the sexagenarian's cool demeanor, and wholly astounded at the unaccountable manner of his entrance.

"I can believe you, Jacobus," retorted the stranger, as he took up the brightly polished steel poker, the main jewel of a Dutchman's fireside, and stirred vigorously the blazing embers into a volcanic eruption. "You have never seen me before; still, I have visited you unseen regularly every year until you turned an ungrateful, bad boy. Yes, Jacobus Van Dam, an ungrateful, bad boy, unworthy of your family and of your race."

Jacobus stared at his frank-spoken visitor, and grated his teeth as his Hollandish pride was pointedly touched at this reiterated denunciation.

"Who are you, to intrude into a man's house in this manner?" demanded Van Dam testily.

"Never you mind," retorted the old gentleman with a leer from his penetrating eyes; "it is Christmas, and I always seek my friends to make them happy, once a year, upon this very night. You don't deserve a call, Jacobus, but still here I am."

"I didn't send for you," mumbled Van Dam.

"I know it," responded the visitor with a merry laugh, "and you don't deserve a call, I tell you."

Then to his involuntary host's astonishment the little old man arose from his chair, proceeded to the mahogany sideboard, took down a couple of glass goblets and placed them on the table. This done with the ease and agility of a modern waiter, the stranger selected the best-filled of the pot-bellied green bottles remaining within his reach, tested the quality of its contents by application of his nose to its uncorked mouth, with an approbatory nod of his head, filled both goblets to the brim with liquid drained from its interior, and carried one glass to his lips.

"Merry Christmas, Jacobus Van Dam," observed the old man, shaking his grizzly lock, "and reformation to you before the New Year comes in."

He emptied his goblet at a single draught, smacked his lips, and indulged in a broad grin.

"You make yourself at home," muttered Jacobus, who, despite an inclination to be uncourteous, took his glass and imitated the stranger's example.

"I'm always at home in a Dutchman's house, and, if I can't get in by the door, I come down by the chimney," said the old gentleman with an uproarious outburst of hilarity which almost caused Van Dam to groan internally. "So you see I always make myself welcome in the homes of my obedient children, of whom, I am sorry to say, Jacobus Van Dam is one no longer."

"And why not?" grunted the money-lender moodily.

"Because, my disobedient boy," replied the stranger with a forced assumption of severity, "you have discarded the manner and habits of your honest and praiseworthy ancestors. Unlike your hospitable fathers, you, Jacobus, think more of hoarding money than of spending it, and, instead of keeping open house, would live and die with closed doors. Here I find you, the descendant of the doughty Van Dam, a father of a family and of the city, in this merry Christmas-time, when mirth and good cheer, revel and hilarity should rule every Dutchman's household, moping in solitude, wifeless, childless, companionless at a desolate hearthside. I am ashamed of you, Jacobus Van Dam, I am."

The old man spoke emphatically, yet compassionately; still there was such a spirit of candor in his reproaching tone that the degenerated Knickerbocker's heart smote him, and he held his peace while his mysterious visitor continued:

"Still I can't blame you wholly," quoth his censor; "you have been associating with the invaders from Down-east, and, as you know evil communications corrupt good manners, you have borrowed some of their bad habits, and loaned yourself to an adoration of gain. Cut adrift from Yankees, Jacobus, and reform so that I can give you two presents, reserved for children of a larger growth."

"You!" ejaculated Van Dam, incapable of restraining an expression of astonishment. "Who are you, I want to know, and what have you to give?"

"I?" rejoined the little old man in encouraging accents, interspersed with pleasant smiles. "Why, I am Santa Claus, your friend and benefactor from the cradle to the grave, who bestows presents upon dutiful children corresponding to their advance in age, that they may be healthy, wealthy and wise."

Jacobus Van Dam felt a burden removed from his heart. For the first time in many years he even experienced a sincere sense of gratification, and he bowed respectfully to the patronal saint of New Amsterdam, who had graciously condescended to reveal himself in proper person to work a moral miracle in the reformation of a disobedient child.

"What must I do to earn these gifts?" inquired the money-lender with suddenly-inspired enthusiasm, for the presence of his mysterious visitor had evoked reminiscences of past pleasures and early youth.

"Be a Dutchman and cease money-loaning," returned Santa Claus sharply, "and, in evidence of regeneration, remit this very day into the Widow Bogardus' hands her scapegrace brother-in-law's mortgage."

Jacobus Van Dam drew a deep sigh, for the Saint had struck home at the first blow. The usurer was disconcerted and almost aghast at prospect of losing a goodly sum upon the threshold of a new career.

"Hesitate not, but do my bidding," resumed the visitor rather authoritatively; "otherwise you will forfeit my first gift, which holds good only for Christmas."

"And what gift is that?" inquired Van Dam, after a few moments of speculative meditation.

"The choicest in my collection—a wife!"

"A wife!" ejaculated the incredulous bachelor. "Where is such an article to be found?"

"In the Widow Bogardus," responded Santa Claus.

Jacobus shook his head despondently. The widow was young, well-to-do, sprightly, rich and handsome, whose hand would be much sought after by the notables of fashion.

"And the other gift?" inquired Van Dam timidly.

"What you love now more than a wife—money."

"Where will I find that?" asked Jacobus with a partial sneer, as he imagined his patronal saint to be inclined towards ridiculing his ruling passion.

"You are inquisitive," replied Santa Claus; "still I will answer your question. Marry the widow; love, honor and obey her as a true son of mine should do, and before I come again you will find a pot of gold buried beneath the foundation of your house."

"A pot of gold!" exclaimed the delighted Van Dam.

"I have promised it. Remember my terms. Reformation and marriage first, and then gold will follow in due course of time."

As the jovial Santa Claus spoke he laid his hand heavily upon the usurer's shoulder with such force, in fact, as to cause him to start with a sudden bound to his feet.

"Merry Christmas, massa! You sleep so sound that I hav' to wake you to go to bed."

It was the familiar voice of the old negress Dinah, who, perceiving her master in an unusually deep slumber before the blazing fire, had not hesitated to employ a show of violence to arouse him from a position she adjudged to be fraught with danger.

"Is the old man gone?" inquired Jacobus as he rubbed his eyes and glanced nervously around.

"What old man?" responded the crone with a loud giggle. "There's no old man here at all. Massa has been dreaming. But Christmas dreams always come true. I hope it warnt a bad one."

"And I hope that you are a prophetess," quoth Van Dam as the memory of his vision revived. "I had undoubtedly a dream, which I wish to come true."

"A Christmas dream, be certain," replied the negress.

"Dinah," said Jacobus after some rumination, "we'll have a Christmas-dinner in style."

"The Lord be praised!" ejaculated Dinah with uplifted hands; "jes as in old massa's time?"

"The very same; so have all the silver plate out."

"Jes so, massa," returned the delighted crone. "Many folks, massa?"

"Only one, and she is a lady," answered Van Dam.

"Lor' a mercy, massa," exclaimed the negress, "who may she be to eat a whole dinner?"

"The Widow Bogardus," said Jacobus solemnly, as he motioned his housekeeper to leave the room, "is to be my guest, and must have the best the market affords. Jack will wait on us, and I'll give new dresses to the whole of you for a Merry Christmas."

Jacobus Van Dam went to bed that night in better spirits than he had possessed for many years previously. He slept soundly; nevertheless, his continuous rest was at times broken by repetitions of his evening vision, wherein Santa Claus reappeared to reassure him as to his sincerity in the offer of gifts dependent upon the efficacy of marriage and reformation—contingencies he resolved to master.

He arose bright and early, and his first care was to dispatch by Jacko, who had donned a long-neglected livery in honor of the occasion, a brief note to the Widow Bogardus, requesting her to call upon him that day, in the neighborhood of noon, at the homestead, upon important business.

"Dear me, what can Mr. Van Dam want of me on Christmas?" remarked the Widow Bogardus to a poor female relative, who officiated as help or manageress of the bereaved lady's domicile during the period of her wearing of the weeds, fortunately drawing to a termination. "What can his business be?"

"He may want to make you a present," suggested the familiar assistant, with a smile; "who knows?"

"And what present can he make me, I'd like to know, I'm sure?" said the widow, preparing to dress for a promenade to the Van Dam homestead.

"Maybe himself," urged the manageress, with an affected giggle. "Who knows?"

"I would not have Jacobus Van Dam for his weight in gold," disdainfully rejoined Mrs. Bogardus, her soft blue eyes flashing instinctively; "the mean, stingy, money-making wretch! Why, Cornelia, I'm afraid that I'd hate the very sight of him."

"Still, he is a gentleman and good-looking," remonstrated Cornelia, "and very rich, they say."

"He is a fine-looking fellow, with a good heart at bottom," explained the widow;" "but then he doats too much upon his money-bags to cast a thought upon a wife, and he'll die an old bachelor."

"And you a widow, unless you marry and be poverty-stricken for love," insinuated Cornelia, with a malicious giggle.

The serving relative had touched a sore point in the blooming widow's matrimonial aspirations. The late Mr. Bogardus, a devoted admirer of her charms during his brief married existence, had displayed post-mortem jealousy, for his will conditioned his relict's enjoyment of his estate during continuance of widowhood, as upon her death or marriage it reverted to his heirs-at-law. Mrs. Bogardus being an attractive woman and inclined towards flirtation, this limitation proved seriously irksome, as she was loth to jeopardize her future and a financial certainty for an outburst of the tender passion.

"Yes, it was stupid in Dedrick to make such a will, but it can't be helped now," muttered the widow with a shrug of her buxom shoulders. Then, arrayed in her bewitching weeds, with a coquettish smile upon her pouting lips, she sallied forth and leisurely sauntered to the Van Dam homestead, conquering hearts as she gayly returned the genial salutations of the day.

Upon entering Van Dam's house the Widow Bogardus was somewhat astonished at the holiday appearance of the old bachelor's home, for in the ancient fireplace glowed a cheerful fire, while every part of the parlor, where treasures of costly silverware could possibly be displayed, they gleamed and glittered amid neatly arranged festoons of Christmas-greens. Over the mantel were suspended the Van Dam arms in a massive, carved frame, and over that memento of an honorable past hung a time-worn banner of orange silk, upon which was inscribed in mammoth letters of gold the magic word "Welcome!" the open sesame to every Dutchman's home and hospitable fireside.

"Take off your hat and make a stay," quoth Jacobus Van Dam politely yet abruptly, as he made his appearance in his full-dress suit, a bright blue coat with solid gold buttons, buff waistcoat embrodered with silver-thread, and black broadcloth pantaloons.

"Dear one! I couldn't think of it," said the Widow, blushing coquettishly to heighten her really attractive appearance, as she seated herself upon a sofa.

"You really must," urged Mr. Van Dam, and he most gallantly advanced and untied the bonnet-strings,

"But I came upon business," remonstrated the Widow, who nevertheless suffered Jacobus to divest her of the head-covering, which allowed the bewitching lady's flaxen locks to flow in liberty over her shoulders, whence Jacobus proceeded to remove a fur-lined mantle of rich, glossy velvet.

"I know it," returned Van Dam, and he seated himself at her side; "and it is more serious than you imagine, as it affects your fortune."

"My fortune!" ejaculated the Widow nervously.

"Yes," continued Jacobus calmly. "Your brother-in-law, young Bogardus, is a prodigal, who has mortgaged to me his share of the property which he will inherit upon your death or marriage."

"A bad investment," retorted the Widow, smiling her sweetest, "as I neither intend to die nor to marry."

"Don't be too certain," quoth Van Dam seriously, "One calamity is sure, and the other possible. Still, to provide you a dower, I have, as you will see by this paper, transferred to you my interest in a property the young scapegrace can never redeem."

He produced a formidable document and placed it cavalierly in the astonished lady's hand.

"Dear me, who'd a thought it?" murmured the Widow, and she actually shed tears of gratitude.

"It is a Christmas-gift," observed Van Dam, as he gallantly wiped with an embroidered handkerchief the tears rolling down a dimpled cheek, "which you will accept as a souvenir of me."

"Dear me, how can I ever repay you?" exclaimed the widow as her tears gushed afresh.

"Simply by keeping the property in the family," responded Van Dam. "You will make me in return a Christmas-present of your heart, your hand and yourself."

"So sudden, Mr. Van Dam!" ejaculated the lady with a smile amid her tears, "Suppose I say no?"

"Which you won't," rejoined Jacobus, as he took the widow's hand within his own and wiped away her tears; but this time the handkerchief was human lips.

"Dinner, massa!" shouted Dinah, whose frosty head intruded unceremoniously through a door.

The Widow Bogardus was too confused to decline the proffered hospitality of her unexpected suitor, who politely extended his arm to conduct the lady into his oak wainscotted dining-hall.

"Golly!" exclaimed Dinah, as the pair entered the room where she had served up a banquet upon which had been expended the entire resources of her culinary art in the cooking of venison, roast-beef, mince-pies, plum-pudding and similar seasonable delicacies; "what a handsome couple!"

Dinah was right, and while Jack waited upon the happy pair in enjoyment of a pleasant dinner and a post-prandial conversation, protracted until long after the lighting of a score of spermaceti candles, Jacko, in resplendent livery, was delivering notes of invitation to guests to honor the Van Dam mansion with their presence that Christmas-evening.

The guests came *sans ceremonie, sans facon*, and among them a dominie, who, in their presence, transformed the Widow Bogardus into Mrs. Jacobus Van Dam, casting her weeds to the waters of Lethe. Thus Santa Claus fulfilled his first promise, but Jacobus was too sensible a man to undermine the foundations of his homestead in search of hidden treasure. The Common Council did it for him, through laying out a new street, which swept away the ancient mansion and converted the kitchen-garden into valuable building-lots. Hence came it that, before Christmas rolled around again, the reformed Jacobus Van Dam metaphorically discovered a pot of gold beneath the foundation-walls of the devastated homestead.

THE WAYSIDE WAIF:
A STORY OF THE YULE-TIDE.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY W. H. B.

"I wish I was dead. There haint nothin' to live for. Even dogs have enough to eat and a warm place to sleep, most of the time, and that's more'n I do. I wish I was dead."

The words were muttered by the wan lips of a little boy—a mere child—who had sunk down to rest at the foot of a guide-post marking the forks of a road. Though there was an effort at tawdry smartness in his dress, yet it was painfully inadequate to shield him from the chilling wind and fast-falling snow.

The attendant of a traveling fakir, whose Punch-and-Judy was the wonder of rustics, he had trudged wearily after his master all the day, as they passed from town to town, resting when inclination prompted, and making up the lost space by extra speed.

But, as the short twilight of the wintry day began to gather and the snow to fall still more rapidly, his little wet feet and numbed limbs failed; he cuddled down to regain strength, and plaintively and hungrily poured forth his longing to die—to gain the rest he had never known since left fatherless and motherless.

Half-stupefied and entirely disheartened, he lay, shielding his little pinched face with his tambourine until a sleigh-load of revelers dashed past and aroused him, singing the songs of blythe, careless hearts and the pleasures of the coming day. But they saw him not as he lay crouched among the thick, sedgy grass and half-covered by the fleecy feathers that floated down from the dull, mottled sky. Yet long after they had disappeared the musical jingle of the bells rang in his ears, and through his brain kept dancing the strains of the "Christmas Log," and how merrily it was burning.

Poor little waif! It was little indeed he knew of Christmas and good cheer, of worth and brightness—even of companionship. His lines had never fallen in pleasant places. His tiny stockings had never been hung by the hearth, save to dry, and never had the bounty of Saint Nick filled them to overflowing, or he known anything of the crowded sleigh and fleet reindeers, and the "little old driver so lively and quick," except it might have been in bewildering dreams.

His master, kind enough in his rough way, but thoughtless, had gone sturdily on, learning him to follow. At first the boy was too weary to do so, and, as his limbs stiffened and bodily warmth became less, was disinclined to do so. At length, however, the thickening of the shadows came as a warning, and, raising his head, he peered through the snow-sleet to gain some knowledge of him. But there was not a human being within sight; nothing but a desolate waste, white and chilling, the road hidden, with its course marked only by posts that looked like sheeted-ghosts, and fences and sparse trees bowing beneath their crowns, glittering as spar.

The boy struggled to his feet, shook himself as a dog might have done, and endeavored to gain a clue to the right track. In his pain and sorrow he had neglected to notice which road his master had taken, and his footsteps had long been covered and there was nothing to guide him, and, lulled by the treacherous drowsiness that comes with continued cold, he sank down again, burrowed in the sedge, determined to wait until his master came back for him, and, feebly repeating his desire to die, soon lapsed into forgetfulness.

Night and storm, wind and cold, the dread attendants of Winter, combined to make his wish a reality. And he was so very near the mysterious dividing-line between the now and the hereafter that but a step remained between. Perchance the angels of the Yuletide, the ministering spirits of Charity, Peace, Love and Goodwill might have been hovering near, waiting, watching for the soul of the little waif, but other help there was none. And faster and faster fell the snow and deeper and deeper became his covering—his spotless winding-sheet, with death alone for sexton and silence for the burial service.

Night—it came early and drew its curtains dense and closely—soon shrouded all objects from view, and when the stars winked themselves into waking, and the moon rose bright, silvery, calm, round and full, there was nothing to be seen at the foot of the guide-post but a little white hillock.

The silence was broken by the clang of bells as a stage-sleigh ploughed its way along. It was filled with muffled forms more than ordinarily anxious to reach the neighboring town. They knew that many eager eyes were watching for their coming—that the theatre would be without the "rare attraction" billed for Chstmas-eve unless they pressed forward.

All were strangers to the roads, and as they reached the forks one tumbled out to see which they must travel—the right or the left.

"Dark as a black wolf's mouth," grumbled the man as he forced his way through a deep drift, "and if this board is like most of them I shall learn nothing."

Fortunately, it was not, and after climbing to the top of the post and brushing away the pillow of snow that had lodged upon it he was able, by the light of a match, to read the direction.

"Keep to the right—two miles to Brownsville," he shouted cheerfully as he slid down, "and we'll soon be there, and—great Heaven! what is this?" he exclaimed as his feet rested upon the body of the boy and a feeble groan answered. "A tambourine and a boy!"

Rapid investigation proved that his words were true, and, lifted from death there to probable death in another place, the stiffening body was transferred to the sleigh, and wrapped first in blankets and robes and then in the arms of a motherly woman.

"Poor, dear little fellow," she murmured as she rested her cheek against the icy one. "He is nearly frozen to death. Oh, drive on faster, faster!"

None needed any urging to second her wishes. Not "stars" were they, but only a "stock" company taking advantage of the season to better themselves; yet their hearts beat as warmly as though each was "every inch a king," or by woman's eloquence was nightly melted to tears or convulsed to laughter,

THE POET'S BEAUTY, IDA STRALENHEIM.

Although in her pale face and troubled guise
The sorrow of that dame is manifest,
Although two fountains are her streaming eyes
And sobs aye issue from her burning breast,
And more besides of suffering testifies
With what a load of grief she is opprest,
Yet in her faded cheek such beauties meet,
Love and the Graces there might fix their seat.

The tragedy of "Werner," in which our heroine conspicuously figures, was written by Lord Byron, while residing at Pisa, during 1821-2. In a preface to the publication the adapter admits that the drama is derived from the German tale "Kruitzner," issued many years previously. Certain of the characters forming the *dramatis personæ* he had found necessary either to alter or modify, while that of Stralenheim was purely imaginary, and added by himself. His explanation of how he came to indite the play is pithy enough. "When I was young," he observes, "I first read this tale. It made a deep impression upon me, and may, indeed, be said to contain the germ of much that I have written." Nor did he intend that it should be produced on the stage. The reviews of the work were, with few exceptions, far from favorable, albeit when Byron first announced himself as a tragedian in regular form public curiosity was strongly excited. "Marino Faliero, Doge of Venice," although evincing much moral beauty in its conception, added little or nothing to his poetic fame. "Sardanapalus," which followed, then 'The Two Foscari," succeeded by "Cain, a Mystery," produced no different effect on the public mind or their author's reputation in that peculiar literary line.

The story of Miss Harriet Lees, in the "Canterbury Tales," from which Byron concocted his drama, is remarkable for the power of its conception, its pleasing picturesqueness, and its quaint, instructive tendency. The main idea of the original is the horror of an erring father, who, having been detected in vice by his son, has the hardihood to defend his action, which so perplexes his son's idea of moral rectitude that he ends by being a murderer, who flings his parent's sophistries back in his face. Perhaps the finest scene in "Werner, or the Inheritance," is where the above idea is forcibly developed. Singular to notice that, notwithstanding Byron wrote from Pisa to Thomas Moore, regretting that the latter considered "'Werner' even approaching to any fitness for the stage," this very tragedy has proved the most successful in representation. The scene of the drama is laid partly on the frontier of Silesia and partly in Siegendorf Castle, near Prague. The first act shows us the hall of a decayed palace in Silesia during a tempestuous night. Act the second reveals a hall in the same palatial residence. The third act shows another hall, from which a secret passage emerges. The fourth act discloses a Gothic hall in the Castle of Siegendorf; while the fifth and last act opens out a still larger and more magnificent hall in the same palace, decorated with divers interesting trophies. The character of Werner is admirably drawn—a man of brilliant talent, ardent mind, powerful connections, splendid prospects, who, having devoted himself to a life of self-indulgence, finds in the end that he is bereft alike of fortune and reputation, practically regarding the latter but as a "bubble." Finally, though stolidly unrepentant, he becomes the prey to bitter remorse, in which he is as selfish as when in his gayety. All that is inconsistent in the delineation of "Kruitzner" is rendered still more forcible in "Werner." He self-upbraidingly gives vent to his feelings in the very first scene. Addressing his wife, Josephine, he exclaims:

"Who would read in this form
The high soul of the son of a long line?
Who in this garb the heir of princely lands?
Who in this sunken, sickly eye, the pride
Of rank and ancestry? In this worn cheek
And famine-hollow'd eye, the lord of halls
Which daily fed a thousand vassals?"

And yet one cannot well avoid feeling a certain degree of sympathy for the man who had no worse enemy than himself, and who can thus depict his incorrigible and perverse disposition:

"My own nature
In youth was such as to unmake an empire,
Had such been my inheritance."

Ida Stralenheim, the new personage introduced into the drama, is supposed to be a prepossessing, precocious girl of fifteen, who, like many others of her age and sex, seems in a considerable hurry to secure a husband. Finally, however, she discovers, to her combined sorrow and dismay, that the individual whom she affectionately regards is not simply a villain, but a brigand and an assassin.

A pretty scene occurs in the first scene of Act III, wherein Ida Stralenheim is introduced in converse with her lover Ulric. He congratulates his "sweet cousin" for making so early an appearance. Ida conceives she has not arrived so very early; but, not wishing to interrupt Ulric, eagerly inquires: "Why do you call me 'cousin?'" Her affianced smiles, and puts the question coolly enough: "Are we not so?' This indifferent retort manifestly does not please the fervid fancy of the young lady, who tells Ulric that such is the case, but nevertheless that she did not quite relish the appellation, considering it "sounds so cold," as though he merely thought upon pedigree, and "only weighed our blood." This interlude clearly gives the idea of a strong, ardent, if not impetuous nature, which Ida assuredly possessed. She could not understand prosaic relationship when her heart was warmed and her being moved by other emotions. Her vivid imagination and impulsiveness are brought out in strong colors now and again. She is so completely happy in herself that she absolutely knows not what sorrow means. She confesses that not only does she hate to hear of sorrow, but asks how it is possible for souls to be sad "who love each other so entirely." Ulric becomes all and all to her. Of him she makes an idol, and renders that idol supreme worship. In her estimation he is the paragon of men.

But the cherished illusion finally vanishes, quickly as the morning mist on the mountains. Even when accused of a desperate deed by an eye-witness, Ida is enraged that her lover's character should be aspersed, indignantly asking:

"Who shall dare say this of Ulric?"

But when at last cautioned:

"Ida, beware, there's blood upon that hand!"

a circumstance more than confirmed by the miscreant himself, who says:

"Away! it is your father's!"

the sudden, startling confession causes Ida to exclaim:

"O great God,
And I have loved this man!"

The curtain raised upon a spectacular conglomeration of pantomime and singing. It was typical of the time, and suggestive of Him the morrow would ever honor. Wearily, shepherds journeyed over a desolate waste and beneath a black sky. Then suddenly in the East a *star*—THE STAR—burst gloriously forth, radiant and dazzling—a star that dimmed to obscurity its paler sisters attendantly jeweling the sky—a star that flooded the earth with light as golden and all-penetrating as the sun at noonday.

In mute reverence the shepherds bowed and followed its guiding glory through many changing scenes until it remained fixed above the manger-cradle. Then, at first low and sweet, but ever increasing until it swelled an anthem of triumph and rejoicing through every land, the song of Redemption swelled upon the breeze and the sublime chorus of "The Child is Born!" was echoed through space by angel lips, while the stars sang together, the floods clapped their hands and the hills bowed low in worship.

Rapidly shifting scenes came one after the other, and by some strange paradox, by the boldest of anachronisms, the grand effect at scenic display was reached. It was a representation of the Garden of Eden in all its freshness and beauty; its wonders of foliage, its wilderness of fruit and flowers, with the clear, blue sky bending lovingly above, and the smile of Heaven illuming every spot. It was the master-work of the painter, the most vivid conception of the ideal artist, the climax of machinery, the almost realization of earth's fairest scene before blight had come to wither and destroy. It was a garden of matchless loveliness without trail or poison of serpent, without the shadow of a curse, and low, sweet, plaintive music stole upon the rapt gazers' ears as the melody of a psalm, and hushed every other sound.

Then slowly opened gigantic flowers and revealed within their rosy hearts the presentments of angels robed in spotless, gauzy white, with wings powered, as it were, with stars, and as the music swelled jubilantly they soared aloft, as if they had the power of flight.

The delusion was perfect. The audience saw nothing of suspending and up-pulling wires, nothing of the intricate mechanism by which these results were produced. They realized only the floating silver-winged and star-crowned angels, the beauty of leaf and blossom, and sat in next to breathless admiration, listening and gazing until the spell was broken by a piping voice exclaiming:

"This must be heaven!"

Then they realized that a form strangely out of place had wandered into "the garden," and saw a little boy with soiled clothes and unkempt hair and a broken tambourine standing by the footlights, and the hush was changed to cheering that shook the old walls.

From the spot where he had been left asleep the poor little waif of the roadside had wandered to the (to him) fairy scenes. They came to him as some brilliant phase of a dream, the acme of light, warmth and beauty, the incarnation of a Christmas of which he had heard, and it was not strange he should think it heaven.

Under ordinary circumstances all the effect of acting and scenery would have been lost. But the manager was equal to the occasion. He quickly came forward, and, taking the dazed child by the hand, told his simple, pathetic story, and the cheers were hushed to sobs and smiles changed to tears, and the rain that pattered upon the stage had a golden and silver ring.

Never dawned a brighter, happier Christmas to anyone than the poor boy, for whom the snow of the previous evening was making at the same time a shroud and a grave. And never in after-life, when he had won a name upon the stage and had the plenty from which to bestow bounty, did he forget the poor—the waifs of the world, although the children of the same good Master.

With the returning Yule-tide may the lesson he learned come also to us. The "poor always ye have with you" was not written for one age, but for all time. They are ever around you, ever pleading at your door. They are your brothers and sisters. Give and make them happy, and when the shadows of Christmas darken and the firelight flashes brilliantly upon your hearthstone you will be happier for the doing, and as a sweet benediction will come to your pillow the sublime refrain: "On earth peace, and goodwill towards men."

THE RANCHER'S DAUGHTER.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY EDMUND E. PRICE

'Way up in the mountains near Tombstone,
The boys were crowded around
The fire in an old dug-out shanty—
Nowhere in the world could be found
Such a wild, such a fierce set of fellows.
Their clothing would scarce wad a gun,
Their cowhides were worn down to nothing,
The roughest set under the sun.
They'd been prospecting around all the Summer,
And of findings they'd had quite a dearth,
Till they'd struck on the breast of the mountain
A spot where they'd found paying earth.
When they'd first started out from Tombstone
The party was thirty or more,
But with skulkers and bummers and sickness
They had dropped down to less than a score.
There was red-headed Morris from 'Frisco,
And Antelope Pete from McBride,
There was goggle-eyed Montez from Bispo,
Just over the Mexican side,
"Blue Dick" and "The Butcher" from Denver—
Such daisies, with shotgun or blade!—
"Wild Tom," too, who'd come from the Black Hills;
No man ever made him afraid.
There was in this crowd of rough miners
A lily-faced boy they called Ben.
He carried the picks to the smithy,
And cooked the coarse grub for the men.
His eyes were of beautiful azure,
And his hair looked like sunshine on gold;
They'd found him half-starved in a canyon,
And near dead with the rain and the cold.
He'd been stolen, he said, from his father
By a greaser they called San Josay;
He'd escaped from the villain at Cross Forks
To where they had found him that day.
They'd cared for him just like a baby,
And guarded him well all the while;
They'd toted him up in the mountain
To the place "whar they had jest struck ile."

Now, as they all sat round the fire,
And the lad to the smithy had gone,
The wind danced a jig down the chimney,
And the pines were announcing a storm.
The lightning and thunder were fighting,
The water came rushing around,
Making a dead-set for the cabin,
As if they would soon tear it down.
Old faces were blanched on the instant,
Each miner sprang up on the floor,
The shanty roof shook like an aspen,
When a stranger he burst in the door.
If "He" from the regions of darkness
Had drop'd in on those sinners that day,
Or took from some church its big pastor,
He could not have caused more dismay.
These galoots, though, were not chicken-hearted;
Each reached for a knife or a tube,
And, aiming them right for the stranger,
Said: "Whar air yer rushin' ter, Rube?"
Glaring at them with eyeballs of fire,
He marked well the face of each one,
Heaved a sigh that was brimfull of sorrow,
Then turned to go out in the storm.
They thought the poor fellow was looney,
And said: "Air yer huntin' a mine?"
"No, no! I am hunting the heart's blood
Of the king of all devils in crime.
You think I am clean off my balance,
Though God He only can know
How I bear myself up since the night that
The villain he struck me the blow.
Say, pards, listen a while and I'll tell yer.
Just four months ago yesterday
I'd a home thar, out on the prairie.
Our lives they were happy and gay—
No sickness or sorrow to bind us,
With plenty of stock on our farm;
The grain it war ready fer reapin',
The hay-crop was stored in the barn.
I remember the night of my mis'ry;
We had just got through evenin' prayers,
The boys had gone feedin' their cattle,
And Mollie, our maid, was upstairs.
My wife I had left in the kitchen,
My darter had kissed me good night—
My Betsy, my rosebud, my angel,
So noble, so pure and so bright!
I heard Towze bark in the barnyard,
And the clatter of hoofs on the road;
Seized my knife and my shotgun and went out,
Th nkin' cowboys they might be abroad.
When up comes that greaser San Josay,
With Apache red devils a score,
And before I could caution the wimen
They got betwixt me and the door.
You bet, pards, I fought fer my loved ones,
Though twenty to one was ther play.
They shot me, then fired my cabin,
And stole both my darlin's away.
I was wounded right smart, yet I wander'd
'Till my limbs they began me to fail;
Then I prayed God to hasten the daylight,
To catch on the murderers' trail.
My poor wife I found in the mornin',
Bound fast to a butternut-tree;
They had cut the old dame most ter ribbins.
But I soon had my child's mother free.
I nursed her fer weeks at a farmer's,
Her life on a thread, yer might say;
Like Damocles' sword, it just wavered.
But at last she grew better each day.
I blessed and I thank'd my good neighbors,
I prayed with and kissed my old wife,
And the winds in the trees were repeatin':
'Come, father, come quick, save my life!'
And I'd follow'd the trail of the varmint
Through many a mile o'er the snow,
And I thought he might be in this cabin
As I stood in ther canyon below.
But I see you are all honest miners,
So now I must off and away,
Cross over the Mexican border,
To find out this beast San Josay."

The miners, God bless them, delayed him,
And offered him coffee and food;
The wild storm was not yet quite over,
A rest, too, would do him some good.
He refused; a hearty good-speed came
From the throats of a dozen or more.
The wind blew again in the shanty,
Little Ben he came in at the door.
As soon as the boy saw the Rancher,
His picks and his drills fell around,
Shrieked, held out his hands to the stranger,
But, fainting, he fell to the ground.
"My daughter—O boys, she's my daughter!"
He raised her till up on his breast
The head of his own darling Betty
Like a cherub in Heaven did rest.
"His darter! Our Benny his darter?"
Each miner uncovered his head,
And, kneeling around little Betty,
"She's all of our darter!" they said.
And when the dear child had recovered
And looked in her fond father's eyes,
What hurrahs, what cheers and what shouting
From the shanty went up to the skies!
They all pooled their issues on Betty,
And swore a big oath on that day
They'd pull a long rope altogether
If they caught that galoot San Josay.

THE STAR.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

I am a beauty on the stage,
And off of it a siren,
A woman of the style and age
That pleased the late Lord Byron.

Each manager that I have had
My name and memory blesses;
None of my seasons has been bad,
I only count successes.

So when I traveled to this town
Twenty directors wooed me,
And, conscious of my great renown,
Unceasingly pursued me.

I chose one, and he billed my name;
The part was Lady Spanker,
And in the public's mind my fame
Stood solid as an anchor.

The *elite* of the city rushed,
To hear me, in great forces;
With adulation I was flushed,
They sent me gems and horses.

I got each day delicious flowers,
That filled up half my carriage.
My dressing-rooms were turned to bowers,
I was besought in marriage.

So finally my hand I gave
(Out of a sense of justice),
And took for husband true and brave,
My manager, Augustus.

His skill had paved the pathway rare
To my successes splendid,
And so I thought 'twould be quite fair
To have our two souls blended.

Alas, the honeymoon was brief,
And held but little honey,
For sweet Augustus, to my grief,
Decamped with all my money.

And worse than that, the monster fled,
Not only with my shekels,
But with a girl who, people said,
Had 60,000 freckles.

CUPID JONES.

WRECKED ON THE ROAD:
A STORY OF CHRISTMAS-TIME.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY PAUL PRYOR.

The members of the Great American Circus Company were dressed for the afternoon performance. Madame Jackson, arrayed in tights and with a heavy woolen shawl thrown over her waxen shoulders, was awaiting the call which would usher her into the sawdust ring to perform her great and unparalleled feat of bareback riding.

There seemed to be a long, tedious and unusual delay, and what excited the curiosity and awakened the apprehension of the troupe was the startling fact that no one had yet been admitted to the circus to witness the performance. The auditorium was still empty.

The anxiety of the performers was destined to reach a culmination when Colonel Munro entered the room. His face was pale, his eyes were bloodshot and his thin lips trembled perceptibly, although it was evident that he made strenuous efforts to conceal his agitation.

"You can remove your costumes!" he exclaimed at last. "There will be no performance to-day nor to-night, nor to-morrow night, nor can I say when business will be resumed. We have been playing to bad business ever since we struck the State of Tennessee, and now, when we were about to cross the State line, my creditors have pounced down upon me and attached everything."

"I am sure we all sympathize with you from our hearts," said Madame Jackson feelingly.

"You have all proved that," replied Munro. "For the last three weeks I have been unable to pay your salaries, and yet, notwithstanding that fact, you have all gone on with your parts. No manager ever had a more faithful following."

"Can you not make some arrangement with them?" inquired Jack Huntley, the clown, who never before looked so serious or felt so melancholy.

"They will not listen to reason. Their ultimatum is their money or my property. I must now disband the troupe. You will go to your respective homes, and with the advent of Spring I hope to summon you together again."

He could not trust himself to say more, and he rushed wildly from the place to conceal the flood of tears that was rising from his heart.

Emily Jackson returned to her hotel sad and almost heart-broken. She had anticipated a successful season, and all her bright hopes were crushed almost at their inception. She went to her room, and its appearance appalled her. Her baggage was not there.

An investigation as to the cause of its disappearance revealed to her the startling fact that it had been seized by the landlord. The news of the misfortune that had befallen the circus had reached the hotel in advance of her appearance.

She pleaded with the landlord to restore her baggage, but her words fell upon deaf ears and an unfeeling and unsympathetic heart. More than that, she was required to vacate her room at once or pay her back bill. The latter was a moral impossibility, and there was nothing left for her but to quit the premises.

How his cruel words cut into her proud heart—she who had performed before the crowned heads of Europe only to receive their enthusiastic and unstinted applause, she who had traveled over the great American continent and appeared before crowded houses to be thus deprived of the shelter of a roof.

Another remembrance saddened her heart. It was the anniversary of her husband's death. He was a performer on the flying-trapeze, and exactly one year ago—nay, almost at that very hour—he had fallen from his aerial perch and was dashed to pieces.

A bright, blue-eyed little girl, with golden hair and a merry heart that nothing seemed to sadden, was all that was now left to console her in the hours of affliction and adversity. She tried to smother her despondency, and endeavored by looking at the brightest side of life's picture to regain her cheerfulness, when a rap came to the door and the chambermaid entered.

"I'm sorry to be the bearer of such a message, ma'am," said the newcomer, "but the boss' orders are that you must quit this room at once. The 'Jack Cade' Combination has just arrived by the last train, and we'll have some difficulty to accommodate them."

"Will not the morning do?" inquired Emily, amazed at the suddenness of the order. "The day is far spent, and where can I, without money and without baggage, obtain a night's lodging? Surely, not in this town, for the breaking-up of our troupe is known everywhere by this time."

"He will not grant you any further time, ma'am."

"Very well, I will go."

The chambermaid departed, and when Emily again found herself alone she went to the window and endeavored to concentrate her shattered senses.

The sun was setting in a clear sky, the birds were singing merrily in the trees, and the children were joyful on the lawn opposite. Merriment seemed to abide everywhere but in her heart.

"Here's a letter for you, ma'am," said the porter as he gently touched her on the shoulder. "I rapped on the door, but, receiving no reply, I made bold enough to enter."

She recognized the handwriting on the envelope. It was from her child, and the irregular scrawl was more acceptable to her at that moment than if it had come from the Czar of all the Russias.

She tore the envelope open with trembling fingers and read with tear-stained eyes:

DEAR MAMMA.—Come home for Christmas. Santa Claus will be here, and I want you to be here too. DAISY.

"My child calls me and I will go to her at once. Christmas is but a few days distant, and with her little arms entwined around my neck and her little lips pressed to mine I will learn to forget the crushing blow that I received this day."

She jumped to her feet when she had ceased speaking, and began to pace the room with nervous strides. Her face became ashy pale, and her trembling fingers instinctively sought her dark-brown hair. She was frantic.

"Home! home! How can I get home? How can I obey the summons of my child—my Daisy? I am penniless. My wardrobe is gone. New York is very far from here, but it never seemed so far as it does now. I can hear Daisy calling me. I can see her little arms outstretched towards me, but I cannot reach her, I cannot take her to *my* arms. God, what shall I do?"

She reeled as though she would fall, but by a tremendous effort of her will she managed to control herself.

"I feel as though I was flying around the ring on the bare back of a wild steed," she resumed as she pressed her hand to her brow; "and every time I go around I am further from my darling. The audience are wildly shouting, but it is not the cheer of gratified spectators; it is the frantic yell of a lot of demons who are glorying because of my despair. Heaven be good to me, or I shall lose my reason!"

She pressed her hand to her bosom as though she would try to still the wild throbbings of her heart. It touched her breastpin and she tore it eagerly from her dress, and a gleam of hope passed across her face as she gazed upon the trinket.

"It's gold—solid gold?" she exclaimed. "My earrings, too, that now hang in my ears—why did I not think of them before? I will sell them, quit this house forever, and take the first train for New York. They are all I can call my own now, except my watch, my poor husband's last gift. Everything else was locked in my trunks, and those have been taken from me."

She hurried from the hotel with a light heart, for her destination now was home—"home, sweet, sweet home." She entered a jewelry store and parted with her jewelry. The amount was far below what they were intrinsically worth, but the shopkeeper drove a hard bargain, and she was obliged to accept whatever he was pleased to offer.

She hastened with quickened steps to the railroad station, and when she heard that the next train due would take her to New York she was overjoyed.

The fare. She asked the ticket-agent the amount. It was exactly what she had received for her jewelry. She shuddered at the thought that such an act would make her penniless again; but she paid the money, received her ticket and went aboard the cars.

It would take her nearly three days before her destination was reached, and how would she live by the way? How could she procure her meals?

The train rushed on, night came and went, and the first break of day found her occupying the seat of the night before. Towns, villages, cities were passed in rapid succession, and, although she suffered from the pangs of hunger, yet she did not murmur. She was going to meet Daisy.

Another night went by, and soon after daylight the train stopped at a station for breakfast. Her suffering was intense, and she could no longer stifle the craving of her system for food.

"I must eat," she said, as she slowly arose from her seat. "I will sell my watch—poor Joe's last gift to me—but I will reserve the right to repurchase it again. I feel that I am unable for the task I had imposed upon myself. It means death, and then what would become of Daisy?"

She felt for the watch, and she gave utterance to a half-suppressed groan as the truth flashed upon her mind.

It was gone. It had been stolen.

She remembered then that, overcome with fatigue, she had slept part of the night before—slept soundly. Then it had been taken from her.

She grasped the back of the seat tightly or she would have fallen. She closed her eyes as if she was endeavoring to shut out from her gaze the hours of suffering that she now realized were before her before she reached home.

"Hello, Emily!" cried a cheerful voice. "Sleeping where you stand, eh? That's a feat I never saw you perform in the ring. You were always wideawake there. Arouse thee, fair lady, for the King in the banquet-hall awaits our coming."

"What, Jack Huntley!" exclaimed Emily as she placed her hand affectionately on the shoulder of the kind-hearted clown.

"Yes, Jack Huntley the clown, the singer of fine coarse songs, dealer in witticisms and mysticisms and general utility-man in the late departed and defunct circus, with a pocket without dimes, but a heart full of chimes always. No use looking glum, Emily; I've just got fifty cents in my pocket, and that's enough for two repasts. Come. I stop at this station, but before we part let us to the banquet-hall. Two cups of coffee and two sandwitches. I've been wrecked on the road before, and know how to make the dimes last. Finance will not trouble me this Winter, for I've some fine aunts who reside in this town, and I'm going to adopt them until Spring."

Before she could reply he had gently seized her arm, and unresistingly had escorted her from the train into the dining-room.

His tongue never ceased to rattle, and his crisp talk soon restored her to good-humor, and when she again boarded the train and he waved her an adieu from the platform she looked and acted like the great equestrienne whose beauty and grace had captivated two worlds.

She reached New York at last, and she was completely surprised at the sight that she beheld. She had realized the fact as she traveled North that the temperature was falling at an alarming rate, but she was not prepared to see the great city buried under two feet of snow.

It was Christmas-eve when she alighted from the cars, and hurried to her home with an eager heart. She would see Daisy, and oh! they would be so happy together.

She rang the door-bell, and when the servant opened the door Emily ran up the stairs, and in the next minute she had pressed the child to her bosom.

"My dear, dear Daisy!" she exclaimed, as tears of joy flowed down her cheeks, "you see I am here—here to spend the joyous days of Christmas-time with you. I received your letter, and I came at once."

"And you'll go at once, too!" exclaimed Mrs. Marlowe, the landlady of the house, as she bolted into the room without indulging in the usual practice of knocking at the door. "You owe me three weeks' board, and I want my money or my room."

"I have not been paid my salary for three weeks," replied Emily in a mild voice. "Business was dull, and the circus has been wrecked on the road."

"And I'll be wrecked unless my boarders pay up promptly," replied Mrs. Marlowe. "How do you think I can pay my bills if those due me are not paid? You owe me three weeks' board for your child and her governess, and I want my money. I want it now, right away—at once."

She beat the palm of one hand with the back of the other after each word to emphasize her language.

"Give me a chance, Mrs. Marlowe," pleaded Emily. "To-morrow is Christmas, and I cannot do anything, but the day after I will ascertain if any of my profession are in town, and if they are they will certainly aid me."

"I don't keep a charitable home to succor the friendless of every clime and profession!" exclaimed Mrs. Marlowe indignantly. "I want my room—I've got good tenants for it, and I'll send them word at once; so you can pack up and go."

Mrs. Marlowe rushed from the room, and slammed the door after her to give proper expression to the anger that filled her breast to overflowing.

Daisy, who had retired to the farthest corner of the room when the landlady entered, now returned to her mother and climbed upon her lap.

"See where my stocking is hung up on the mantlepiece there, mamma," said Daisy as she pointed to the little article. "Santa Claus is going to put something nice in it to-night. I wrote a letter to him a week ago, and Mary, the governess, mailed it up the chimney, and he got it, and he wrote back that he would be here to-night without fail."

Emily looked at the little stocking, and as she gazed fixedly at it her heart beat, not like the chimes of which the noble-hearted Jack Huntley had spoken, but like the solemn funeral tolling of a cemetery bell.

"This is the worst blow of all," sighed Emily, as she pressed her child closely to her bosom, so that the little girl might not notice the terrible mental torture that she was suffering. "Friendless and penniless on such a night! How will poor Daisy bear the disappointment that the morning must bring forth?"

"And I must go from here, too. Shall I ne'er find a roof to shelter me again? God help those who, like myself, are wrecked upon the road."

A knock was heard at the door and a telegram was handed her.

"What new misfortune is this?" she muttered as with a palpitating heart she fairly tore the envelope into shreds in her eagerness to know the worst that was hidden within it.

She read it again and again, and each time that she perused it an added glow rested on her cheeks and brighter beams of joy dwelt in her eyes. It was as follows:

EMILY JACKSON.—After three days' struggling I am myself again. The debts of the circus are all paid, and I have an abundance of capital behind me to make success assured. Have sent for Jack Huntley and rest of troupe, and they are coming. Come at once and join us, for we cannot do without you. Bring Daisy with you this time. I inclose order on Western Union for one hundred dollars to meet possible expenses. Your hotel-bill here is discharged, and your wardrobe is ready for you.

ROBERT MUNRO.

"These are the rooms, sir," said Mrs. Marlowe as she ushered a gentleman into the rooms occupied by Emily. "This lady leaves here to-night. Bad pay, sir. Old story—wrecked on the road."

"What, Emily Jackson!" exclaimed the gentleman as he rushed forward and shook the equestrienne warmly by the hand. "You here! I thought you were traveling with my brother's circus down South?"

"So I was, Tom," replied Emily, "but bad business and bad debts ruined us. I have just received a telegram from him, however, summoning me to return at once, and an order for one hundred dollars. Can you cash it, Tom?"

"Cash it? Of course I can. My brother wrote to me concerning the kindly consideration of his company towards himself when he was compelled to withhold their salaries. There's the money."

"Now, how much money do I owe you, Mrs. Marlowe?" asked Emily as she received the money from Tom Munro.

"Three weeks' board at eighteen dollars a week—fifty-four dollars. But Lor' bless me, Misses Jackson, you needn't put yourself out about that trifle. There's no hurry for it."

"There was considerable hurry for it before Mr. Munro came here," replied Emily quietly. "There's the amount. I will leave this house the day after to-morrow, and you can let these rooms."

"But you will take them, sir?" inquired Mrs. Marlowe, somewhat anxiously, as she addressed the newcomer.

"Not if the walls were pure gold, madame. It is evident that you have treated Mrs. Jackson with undue severity, and as her friend I resent it. Misfortune will often be allotted to the honest and pure one, as it has been in this case. If you had trusted this lady she would have paid you. Now you have your rooms on your hands."

"These rooms being paid for, I suppose they are mine, Mrs. Marlowe?" said Emily.

"Certainly, madame; I didn't intend——"

"Then please leave them."

Mrs. Marlowe retired, and after she had gone she noticed that Tom Munro left the house. He returned about one hour afterwards with several bundles, out of the corner of which a little head seemed to show itself, as though it contained a doll.

It was near midnight when he left again, and the next morning, when Daisy awoke and went to examine her little stocking, she found that Santa Claus had not forgotten his promise, and her Christmas was indeed a happy one.

The day following Christmas Emily started for the South, accompanied by Daisy. She again joined the circus troupe, and in the loud outbursts of applause that greeted her performances in the sawdust ring she managed to forget her past sufferings.

ONE CHRISTMAS-EVE.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY JACK FRANC.

The green baize had descended upon the fourth act of "Camille," and the success of the new actress was assured. Her name is Mona Leigh, and her age is about twenty-three. She is of medium height, and her face is simply perfection—a low, wide brow, with melting dark eyes gleaming through silky, fringy white lids; a classic Grecian nose, little shell-like ears, a round, soft chin, surmounted by a rich, red mouth. All this loveliness was crowned by a wealth of gold-red hair, which rippled in chaotic waves to her slender and dainty waist. She is the leading-lady of the Avon Theatre, and this was the inaugural night of the Fall and Winter season.

A young man hurriedly left the theatre at the fall of the curtain, and walked briskly around to the stage-entrance to congratulate Mercutio Montressor upon his remarkable success as Armand. He is Gilbert Bronson, the dramatic critic of *The Daily Donkey*. He is not a bad-looking fellow, by any means, and he leads a quite respectable life. His salary is not munificent enough to permit him to give champagne suppers to his friends, and all that sort of thing; still he manages to worry along on comestibles other people appease the cravings of nature with. He takes life easily, and is not afflicted with pessimical ideas, and actually believes in a higher existence, which is something remarkable for a newspaper scribe.

"How do you like me, old chap?" said Montressor.

"Very much indeed," replied Gilbert. "Your acting was a surprise to everyone."

"Miss Leigh plays Camille splendidly."

"She appears to be a very charming woman."

"Would you like to meet the lady?"

"Above all things, yes."

And the young man's wish was gratified.

"Can I see you after the performance, Miss Leigh," he inquired, as the prompt-bell tinkled for the fifth and last act.

The young lady gracefully bowed her head in the affirmative, and he returned at the termination of the play and found her making preparations to depart for her residence.

"Would it be considered impertinent to request the pleasure of seeing you home?" hazarded Gilbert.

"I am only too glad to avail myself of your courtesy," replied Miss Leigh, taking his proffered arm.

She lived only a short distance from the theatre in a retired and old-fashioned street. During their journey she told him a great deal about herself. She came from Australia, where all of her people resided, and she was living with a distant relation of her mother. There was something in her tone that fascinated him, and her modest, ladylike demeanor both attracted and commanded his respect.

"Good-night, Mr. Bronson," she said as they reached the house. "You have been exceedingly kind, and I thank you."

"It is hardly worth mentioning," he answered, as he clasped her little hand and continued his homeward course.

Gilbert became a constant visitor of Miss Leighs. He sent her an occasional new book, and other little nicknacks. A warm friendship sprang up between them, which gave promise to ripen into a more tender attachment. The months flew on, and the theatrical season was over. A lady friend invited Mona to spend the Summer holidays in the country. She informed Gilbert, and he passed the evening with her prior to her departure.

"I hope you will have a jolly time," he said with a lugubrious smile as he was leaving.

"It's very good of you to say so," she replied piquantly.

"I shall miss you awfully."

"Pray, stop. This is too flattering."

"Are you jesting with me?"

"I really don't know."

"Mona, will you marry me."

"Are you not a trifle precipitate?"

"No. You surely must have noticed all this in my every movement. Do you suppose I would come here day after day for no purpose? You are the woman of my heart, and I love you with a passion untainted by a single selfish or unjust thought. Take pity on me, Mona, and grant me this solace during your absence."

"I cannot answer you now, Gilbert." Her voice trembled. "Give me time to think of what you have said. I will write you from where I am going, and rest assured my reply will be for your welfare and future prospects."

"My darling!"

He had her in his arms; her cheek was pressed to his, his eyes looked in hers, and he kissed her for the first time. The world would indeed be well lost with this fairest specimen of nature's handiwork for his life-long companion.

A week elapsed, and a storm of doubts and fears continually passed through Gilbert's busy brain. The letter at length arrived, accepting his suit, and they were to be wedded in a year.

The long and torrid Summer was at an end, and the Avon opened its portals once more. An entirely new stock company was engaged, with the exception of Mona, whose services were still retained. A new and handsome leading-man, who hailed from the Antipodes, and whose reputation was unknown, filled the gay and festive Montressor's place in the affections of the public.

"This fellow's acting is vile," remarked Gilbert to Mona.

"I disagree with you," she retorted hastily. "Mr. Carrington is certainly very clever, and will improve upon acquaintance."

"He kissed you twice last night."

"It was in his part. I'm sure I could not have prevented it.

"You appeared to like it."

"Gilbert, are you jealous?"

"Yes, jealous of every man who approaches or touches you. I sometimes believe that I am an idiot."

"Do you want me to regard my future lord and master in the light of a lunatic?"

Affairs progressed in this novel and not altogether humdrum style for some little time. A ball was to be given by the members and attaches of the theatre, which Gilbert had particularly warned Mona against attending.

"Won't you go with me?" she asked.

"I shall be busy that night, and it will be absolutely impossible. Besides, I have no desire to see my promised wife in the arms of every Tom, Dick and Harry who chooses to be there."

To speak frankly, he feared the magnetism of the dangerous Carrington. The event was at hand, and he left the office late that night, or rather early in the morning. The thought struck him to drop in at the ball, and when he reached there he quickly scanned the giddy dancing throng.

"So, she has disobeyed me!" he said, as his eyes rested for an instant on the lovely figure and face of Mona waltzing with Carrington.

She seemed supremely happy, and, muttering a fierce, vindictive oath, he strode out of the place. The next day they had a bitter quarrel.

"Why did you go to that accursed orgie?" he demanded.

"Because it was my sweet will," said Mona, coquettishly toying with her fan.

"I told you to beware of such folly."

"I made no promise to the contrary. It was, after all, a very insipid entertainment."

"I saw you on Carrington's breast—his arm encircled your waist. You were the cynosure of all eyes. It was a very pretty sight, and I dare say he kissed you when an opportunty presented itself."

"Hold, sir! This is too much even from you! Your insinuations are as false as they are insulting. If you will only listen to an explanation."

"That is useless," he interrupted. "You have disgraced us both."

"If I am the vile creature you picture me, your path is clear, and I have no further claim on you."

"Do you mean to break our engagement?"

"As you please."

"Very well, Miss Leigh; I take you at your word."

"It is your wisest policy, since you have no faith in the woman you profess to love."

"Love is a delusion we pursue all our lives and never grasp. It eludes us when we seek to pluck it."

"Have the kindness to return me my picture."

She struggled in vain to repress her emotions with quivering lips and a countenance as white as death. He savagely tore the locket from his watch-chain, and as he handed it to her he received back his ring, and, gazing at it for an instant, he threw it into the fire.

"You wicked wretch, you have destroyed it. Leave me! I hate and detest you." And Mona burst into a flood of tears.

"Carrington will give you a better one," he hissed as he left her.

Mona sat for hours in a stunned and dazed position, with her hands clasped and her head bowed in mute despair. How hollow and uncertain was mankind, after all! The bright, glaring, early Spring sunshine streamed into her room, and its dancing and refulgent rays seemed to mock and gibe at her. The trees were blossoming and the flowers budding, and the birds were twittering in their nests. The air resounded with the gleeful, merry shouts of romping children. All nature was rejoicing and she was so miserable. The man she had loved and trusted was the first to desert her. O God! if she could only die! If some sudden and horrible fate would overtake and blot her from existence, what a grateful and happy transition it would be to this hour of bitterness.

Bronson's nature became changed, and he plunged recklessly into the seething vortex of dissipation, endeavoring to drown all recollections of her. A letter came to him. He recognized at once the dear but irregular and crooked chirography.

"Shall I read it?" he said in a hesitating mood. "No; she has no longer a place in my life. I am nothing to her now."

His blind and ignorant pride prompted him to send it back unopened. He very seldom went to the Avon, and only when occasion required. One night, as he was sitting near the stage, he observed Mona looking at him in a wistful and inquiring way. He averted his eyes in another direction and pretended to be dreadfully amused, and even forced a laugh at the capers of the low comedian.

The holidays were drawing near, and he had not seen her for months. Late on Christmas-eve a telegram was handed him:

"Please come to me. I am in trouble. MONA."

Would he obey this pleading summons? Why did she not send to Carrington, he argued? Finally his better nature conquered and he went. Mona, pale and trembling, met him upon the threshold.

"What can I do for you, Miss Leigh?" he asked, coldly touching her extended fingers. She did not reply, but beckoned him to follow her into the room. He silently obeyed, and Carrington, lying upon a couch propped up with pillars, greeted his vision. He was either unconscious or dead, as his eyes were closed, his teeth tightly set, and his face was colorless.

"May I inquire the meaning of all this?" asked Gilbert, with a touch of irony in his voice.

"Your rival is before you."

"Have you brought me here to add insult to injury?"

"No. The man you hate so foolishly is my brother."

"Your brother!" he echoed, gazing at her with mingled amazement and curiosity.

"Yes," she reiterated; "I kept the secret from everyone, as I did not want our relationship known. I vainly thought it would injure me professionally. He was a wild and reckless fellow abroad, addicted to drinking and bad companions. I induced him to try his fortunes here, with the hope that he would forget his old associates. To-night he was injured seriously, I fear, in the theatre, and that was my motive in sending for you, so that you could learn from his own lips that I was not the woman you thought me."

Carrington had miscalculated the distance in the tower-scene of the new melodrama "Perdition," and in jumping to the stage he had broken his leg and hurt himself internally. The physician had pronounced his injuries dangerous, but not necessarily fatal.

"Why did you not tell me this before?" asked Gilbert, remorse-stricken.

"You would not listen to me. I went to that silly affair to oblige him. It was the first favor he had asked of me, and I could not refuse him. I wrote you a letter, but it was sent back to me. I surely did not merit this treatment from your hands. However, that is all past, and we are now strangers. I will no longer detain you."

This girl was proud even in the hour of her humiliation and affliction.

"Mona, I have wronged you deeply and irreparably, and I do not hope or even dream of your forgiveness, for my punishment is just. Think of me sometimes as a man who loved you, but whose dull intellect failed to understand and appreciate your true worth. Good-bye, dear; I hope your Christmas to-morrow will be as bright and joyous as mine is wretched and heavy. God bless you!"

"Where are you going?"

"I don't know—anywhere, I suppose—into the world—back to the old life."

"Do you think that I will permit this sacrifice? Have I lost all sway over you?"

"What are you saying?"

"Simply this. I was willful and you headstrong. Is there to be no reconciliation after so much misery?"

"Will you give me another chance?"

"Don't leave me, Gilbert; I cannot live without you."

Mona tottered, and she would have fallen but for his strong arms. He pressed her slight form soothingly to his heart and rained warm kisses upon her sweet and scarlet lips to the merry music of Christmas-bells, dispelling the stillness of midnight with their jubilant anthems of peace and goodwill to all.

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THE DEATH AND THE BIRTH.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY T. M. DE HYLTON, M. D.

I hear the curfews of the dying year
  Sound through the chambers of the midnight gloom,
And, though for him some few friends shed a tear,
  Thousands of mortals wish him in the tomb.

Their festal boards are laden with rich fruit
  Behind the screens of mourning feignly hung;
The harp, the cymbal and the merry lute
  Await the hour, with wildest music strung.

He breathes his last—the hour of Twelve is heard;
  The new-born Year comes tip-toe into view;
Up goes the curtain at the given word:
  "The Old Year's dead—ring in the joyous New!"

He smiles, he nods, he poses to the crowd,
  He shakes his glossy ringlets to the air;
He scans his vestment with a glance so proud
  That all the world with admiration stare—

Like monarch he, or hero passing great,
  Sits to the feasts and proudly all surveys,
While in the utter dark there lies in state
  The poor Old Year, with none to do *him* praise.

The air is rent with revelry and song,
  The weeping few no longer mourn the dead;
They, too, forget the friend they've had so long—
  Their heart and brain with wine and music's fed.

And thus the Old Year, like some poor old friend,
  Sinks unlamented to his silent bier;
"New brooms sweep clean," but what may *this* portend?
  Wait for a twelvemonth and we'll see, New Year!

A PIECE OF BLUE PAPER:
A CHRISTMAS STORY.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY CHARLES H. DAY.

The "Great Alhambra Palace," under the management of Sylvester Loud, opened in Irondale with a great flourish of trumpets. Gay-colored posters filled the dead-walls, and the editors of *The Blowhard* and *The Bladder* were not forgotten. A brass band played loud and long before the entrance to the hall, which, previous to Manager Loud's lesseeship, had been known as Union Hall. The brilliant illumination of a calcium lured the inquisitive to the box-office, and Sylvester Loud, "sole lessee, manager and proprietor," *vide* small bills, treated the idlers by appearing in person and authoritively ordering off several small boys who were skylarking regardless of the presence of so important a personage.

Manager Loud's advent in Irondale had created a decided sensation. He had made a wonderful impression. His gold-headed cane alone was calculated to awe the beholder. Loud established a credit that needed no confirmation by Dunn or Bradstreet. Who could say "terms cash" to Loud and his gold-headed cane, his cluster-pin and his watch and chain?

The opening of the "Great Alhambra Palace," to quote *The Bladder*, was "both an artistic and a financial success," while the editor of *The Blowhard* was led to indite a prosy editorial on "The Past and the Future of Amusements in Irondale."

The "Palace" was a novelty—a new broom that swept clean the pockets of the Irondaleites—and Loud had "hit it" by opening in the very nick of time—pay-day, all the laborers at the forges and the mills having received their monthly wages.

There was "an entire change of bill" on the second week and "six new faces," so the bills read, but there was not a face in the half-dozen that had not been in use for years, and two at least had done duty for many and many a year.

Business dropped off on the second week, but could still be called good, in spite of the fact that three of the clergymen had preached simultaneous and unanimous sermons against the "Palace." And let it be recorded here that it was a matter of current report and much comment in Irondale that a son of one of the first families had been seen in conversation with the "Queen of Song-and-dance" at the post-office—a fact that rocked the town to its very foundation.

One of the "six new faces" was Azael, "The Flying Meteor of the Air, the Champion Single-trapeze Artist of all Creation." Azael was a refined, intelligent young athlete, who looked like a college student devoted to the exercises of the gymnasium and outdoor sports. He went to board with a widow at her humble home, where she lived with one daughter—a young lady grown, who aided her in earning a livelihood in keeping a boarding-house.

The third week there was a marked depression in the amusement market. "Eight more new faces and all the old favorites retained" failed to draw; tradespeople began to haunt the manager for their bills; and painters, carpenters and gasfitters were nervous in regard to financial matters; but Manager Loud "stood them off" with one excuse and another until the climax came on Saturday night—the bubble burst, or, to quote *The Bladder*, "The Alhambra Palace ballooned."

Many mourned at the downfall of Sylvester Loud, but where was he? Gone no one knew where, with his gold-headed cane, his cluster-pin and watch, his chain and his airs.

And now the scene changes, as the novelist would say, to the cot of the humble widow. How handy it is to call her the widow! You wouldn't know her if her name was printed in poster-type, and, the writer having forgotten it, he couldn't tell you if he wanted to.

Azael is in his room. His trunk stands open and empty. He must be about to embark upon an Arctic expedition, for he is warmly clothed. He wears upon his person three complete sets of underwear, in his hat he has placed a cap, he wears an overcoat of moderate weight, likewise an ulster; such small articles as he cannot wear he has placed in his pockets, and he steals out into the night, leaving behind him—an empty trunk.

While Azael, "The Flying Meteor of the Air, the Champion Single-trapeze Artist of All Creation," was hoofing it out of town, flat-broke and penniless, the widow and her fair daughter slept.

In the morning there was quite a commotion when the room lately occupied by Azael was visited. The widow hissed "Scamp!" and the daughter, who had learned of the absconding of Manager Loud, turned away with the sympathetic remark:

"Poor fellow!"

When Summer came there was a strike in Irondale, and the mill-owners, who had on hand a surplus stock, were only too glad to "shut down" and let the strike and the strikers wear out together. After the first hurrah and excitement, naturally attendant upon so many rendering themselves voluntarily idle, was over, there came to be dull times in Irondale. The widow's boarders exhausted their money and went elsewhere to seek employment, some being unable to settle in full. To make the matter worse, there was no "Fall trade," so the manufacturers concluded to wait until after election to see what the prospects were in regard to the tariff, and whether it was to be tinkered adversely to the interests of the capitalists.

There was much consequent distress in the place, and none did it pinch tighter than the widow and her daughter.

The merry Christmas-times were at hand, and in that household at least the "happiest day in all the year" promised a lean larder and an empty pocketbook.

It was the day before Christmas, and a sad day had it been for mother and daughter. It was the last delivery of the letter-carrier. He tapped at the door and the widow answered it. The man handed her a letter, remarking:

"A merry Christmas, I hope."

"Read it, daughter," said the widow; "I left my spectacles in the other room."

She clipped open the envelope nervously with the scissors, and pulled out the letter. As she did so there fell to the floor a piece of blue paper. Here would be the proper place to insert "To be continued," and let the reader wait for the balance of this "o'er-true tale" until "our next;" but this is a story in short metre and to be swallowed in one dose.

"O mother!" exclained the delighted maiden. "A postal-order for money. Who could have sent it?"

The letter explained it all. It read:

MY DEAR MADAM,—You must have a very bad opinion of me after my running away from you as I did, leaving my boardbill unpaid. But what was to become of me? Loud could not pay me—at least, did not. I had come to him from an equally unprofitable engagement, and that night, when I took French leave, I hadn't a cent in the world. Now I am able to make amends by inclosing a postal-order for the amount due you.

It wound up with "Very respectfully yours, Azael." But there was a postscript tacked on at the bottom that read: "Kind regards to your daughter;" also "P. S. No. 2.—Please keep my trunk till I see you again."

With the receipt of the piece of blue paper there came a turn in the tide of affairs at the cottage. The quickly-following New Year saw work resumed and a full circle of boarders gathered about the widow's table.

Azael, the now most famous and high-priced aerial artist of the profession, came in the Spring-time to claim his empty trunk, and, more, he sought and gained the hand of the widow's daughter.

He convulsed his wife and mother-in-law with a laughable description of his midnight escape, and they told him of the joy brought to them in the hour of their deep distress by "A PIECE OF BLUE PAPER."

MISS GEORGIE CAYVAN.

TWO CHRISTMAS-EVES.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY ETTIE ROGERS.

The night was warmish, though the earth was filled with deep frost, and patches of solidified snow glistened in sheltered places. The air was soundless, the landscape was a pictured harmony in black and silver, and the intense, lustreless azure of the moonless sky was spangled with large, white stars. Through the subdued splendor, through all the magic softness, freshness and silence of the Christmas-eve, Julian Garth drove slowly homeward.

Behind him twinkled the yellow lights of the little town and before him stretched that fantastic expanse of silvery shimmer and inky shades as his sober gray horse jogged down a tortuous road, ever descending through a panorama of shadowy things—the motionless skeletons of deciduous trees, the desolate majesty of silent pines and firs—and presently around a rocky curve, where the track turned abruptly upon a ponderous old bridge that spanned a noiseless stream.

Just then there was a sudden thunder of hoofs upon the echoing timbers of the wooden structure, and the next instant a maddened horse plunged up the ascent, dragging at its heels the fragments of what had been a hackney-cab, and close behind, in an excited and futile pursuit, rushed the luckless driver, capless, panting forth grotesque imprecations, and as unreasoning in the useless chase as the beast in mad flight beyond.

Before Garth could check his imperturbable gray he was startled by a piteous, girlish cry from the other side of the stream, and, quickening his pace over the bridge, he discerned a disconsolate, girlish shape crouching among the shadows by the way.

In the small light of the white stars, he beheld a delicate and symmetrical female figure, a sensitive and most exquisite face, with pouting, scarlet lips and wonderfully Asiatic eyes. Her heavy traveling-cloak had been torn away, and Garth perceived that she wore an airy dress of rosy gauze, with a fanciful adornment of golden fringes—that a priceless diamond star blazed above her pretty forehead—that a spray of unfaded yellow jessamine was fastened in her loose hair, that hung in jetty masses far below her golden-girdled waist.

She had been, as he conjectured, the occupant of the demolished cab; but she was unhurt, and the poignancy of her distress and terror was somewhat mystifying.

"I wish to help you—not to harm you," Garth protested, as she shrank from him in a scared way.

For a moment those immense black eyes—those marvelous Asiatic eyes—were fixed upon his countenance in a strangely doubtful scrutiny.

"You cannot get me to Strathwich station in time for the midnight express," she presently answered, in fine scorn of what was so evidently a colossal impossibility; for just then the glad bells of the near town began the jubilant Christmas-chimes.

"I can take you back into the town in time for the train you desire," Garth remarked, feeling vastly puzzled, for Strathwich station was many a mile away.

Again the girl started back from him, still regarding him with that intent and odly distrustful gaze.

"You would take me back?" she repeated almost fiercely—"take me back to that place, to *him*, to all the evil and agony from which I am fleeing?"

"You misapprehend me, and are unmindful that I know nothing whatever of the evils from which you would escape," Garth said with gravity, his bewilderment waxing considerably. "I only wish to serve you," he reiterated. "My equipage and myself are entirely at your disposal."

As he uttered this assurance, that was as sincere as gallant, the mysterious girl tottered as with sudden faintness, and then, with a quavering and incoherent ejaculation, drooped swooning against the ready arm he extended to sustain her.

She was scarcely more than a child, and she was but a dainty burden to the stalwart man, who promptly placed her in his carriage and then drove resolutely and rapidly homeward through the soft, dim Winter night.

"I must consider her as a kind of Christmas-gift—a gift of the Gods," Garth thought rather grimly as the jubilant bells clanged across the black and silver landscape with an exultant clamor that seemed almost to shake into motion the banner hanging limp from the flagstaff of the unpretentious villa he was swiftly approaching.

The gods might have sent him a less perplexing gift, or one less inimical to his passionless serenity of soul, but certainly none more witching, more sweet, more altogether adorable than the slight creature who had been consigned to his protection and sympathy.

She made no more allusions to the evils that had beset her, but she assumed a reticence that Garth was too gallant to question and too magnanimous to condemn.

Her gratitude towards him was pathetic, her confidence in his nobility and in his potency to shield her was unmistakable, and she seemed loth to leave him and the quiet house that sheltered her.

"You shall stay as long as you like," he said hospitably. "The place is so secluded that we are only too pleased to have a guest here with us."

And so she remained—remained until her presence became a necessity to him, and until he could not tranquilly contemplate the loss of the exquisite and singular girl whose graces brightened his somewhat lonely abode.

For Julian Garth was something of a recluse in his own prosaic and unnoticeable way. Life had not been too satisfactory to his scrupulous and yet liberal spirit, and his experiences had not been conducive to a fondness for glittering crowds and superficial excitements. He loved but few, and them he loved well; he trusted absolutely or not at all; he wasted no loud and unavailing pity on the collective rabble, but for the oppressed and sorrowing individual in whose integrity he had faith his sympathy was as practicable as immeasurable.

And he had infinite faith in the endearing and mysterious Christylla; whatever her hidden trouble or error might have been, he believed her to be the most perfect thing created, pure as the first of fair women while the angel walked the earth yet unfallen. For what her life had been before he met her he cared not at all; for the life they two might share together he cared only.

"I trust you, I love you, and you shall be my wife," he said to her once on another Christmas-eve—an evening unlike the momentous one that had gone before.

For now the world was white with snow, and great flakes—those tintless and odorless blossoms of the air—were being blown in vast drifts about the quiet villa, where the two sat in a luxurious little parlor waiting for the sound of "the merry, merry bells of Yule."

"It is near the time when:

'The Christmas bells from hill to hill
Answer each other in the mist.'

It is the time for peace and joy, for love and song," Garth observed. "Do you never sing, my Christylla?"

She glanced at him in a sort of startled way, and a look of pride and pain came upon her perfect face.

"I did once," she replied slowly, and as if struggling to conquer her unaccountable and obstinate reserve. "I was a public singer. My voice was my one treasured gift, and might have gained for me some enviable advantages had I not been hampered by a master who had neither conscience nor human compassion. He was my only relative," she explained, still with that reluctant sort of frankness, "and he allowed me to sing only that he might live a prodigal and profligate. His extortions and his oppressions, his insolence and his violence, had become insufferable; I was distracted with the misery of it all, but I feared him too much to rebel. And then one night—that dreadful Christmas-eve, Julian—my voice went from me. His rage at my calamity"—she pursued with a shudder—"was appalling; in his insane vengeance he would have destroyed me. Then I fled, and you came to me in my distress and need! That is all my little story, Julian, all that I have hidden from you, foolishly perhaps; but I feared you might send me back to him, who is really my lawful guardian, I suppose."

"And instead of that I shall constitute *myself* your lawful guardian without delay," Garth declared with a smile. "We will have a quiet little Christmas-wedding, and you shall be made indisputably my own. And if you ever sing again you will sing for me only."

"Ah," she returned sadly, "I shall never sing again—not even a single note. I cannot so much as pipe the simplest scale," she added, with a playful attempt of an easy refrain.

Abruptly she paused, a glory, like the dawn, upon her face.

"Julian, O my love," she cried, flinging herself on her knees beside him in an ecstacy of delight, "it is given back to me—the voice of which I was so proud. I shall now indeed sing for you."

And then, still kneeling, she uplifted her transfigured face, and without hesitation or prelude began a brilliant cantata.

Garth listened in amazement as her really exquisite tones filled the room with wondrous melodies—gladder than the carol of birds in a Summer wood, sweeter than the murmur of winds in the poppied wheat, clearer than the tinkle of brooks on silver sand.

And while beside her lover she still kneeled, singing, the joyful Christmas bells chimed across the white world: "Peace on earth, good will to man," and ineffable content to those two, for whom the yule-tide must forevermore seem especially hallowed.

Other gifts might be theirs in happy seasons yet to come, but none dearer, none sweeter than what had been given to them on two memorable Christmas-eves

THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

THE FRANK QUEEN PUBLISHING COMPANY (LIMITED)
PUBLISHERS.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1883.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

☞ No replies by mail or telegraph. Letters that do not reach this office until Monday noon will not be answered until the following week.

Theatrical, Musical, Etc.

J. DE S., Rochester.—You must bring personal influence to bear. We do not know of a manager who would not sooner shovel snow than read a new play by an unknown or untried author.

GOLDDUST DARK, Helena.—We know nothing of it. It looks as if, by your choice of name, you also are trying to advertise it.

W. W. S., New Haven.—No answers by mail; and when we are to decide bets, the bets themselves must be stated to us.

R. M., Milwaukee.—You had better advertise for him through our Professional Bureau. We do not furnish whereabouts in this column.

LEARNER, Jeffersonville.—1. They do not have contracts, their engagements being for too short a time. 2. You can get them in all sizes, in few or many colors, and for all sorts of prices. Address one of the dealers who advertise in this paper. 3. We suppose he is.

CONSTANT READER, Albany.—If T. M. Hengler has appeared at all this season, it has been but sparingly.

BROOKLYN.—We do not wish to answer questions as to the ages of professionals, especially ladies.

W. W. W., Cincinnati.—See reply to "R. M., Milwaukee."

S. J. O., Springfield.—Address that firm, Madison-square Garden, this city, and its business manager will get the letter.

INQUISITIVE, Cleveland.—Were we told what they cost, we should probably not believe it. There are some things that it is a waste of time to be inquisitive about. Those that relate solely to private business are among them. Published figures must be untrue nine times out of ten, because there is no use in publishing them if they are true. The figures then would be so within reason as not to attract attention.

SCIP, Kalamazoo.—1. P. J. Niles of Niles and Evans is dead. 2. David Wambold, ex-minstrel, is living. 3. Of a bookstore or newsdealer.

POST-EXPRESS, Rochester.—1. It is our rule not to answer by mail and not to give whereabouts in these columns. Were we to do it in one case we should have to do it in others, and we have hundreds of such questions a month. We should have thousands but for our rule. 2. Frank Pilling is still in the candy business, Fourteenth street, this city. 3. J. M. Hardie seems to have quietly dropped out.

F. L. L., Worcester.—C wins. "A Midsummer-night's Dream" has been played elsewhere in Boston than in the National Theatre. It was played at the Boston Theatre and at the Boston Museum.

A. M. K., Memphis.—See reply to "Post-Express, Rochester." Advertise for him through our Professional Bureau, if it is important.

G. C. N., Pittsburg.—1. About fifteen dollars a week. 2. No one can answer such a question who does not know how large the troupe is to be, where it is to travel, and the kind and extent and quality of its advertising.

CRITERION.—To the best of our recollection, and without undertaking a search, we should say that there were a minstrel troupe performing on Broadway, between Bleecker and Amity streets, in the course of the years 1860-1-2. They would naturally have appeared in Mozart Hall, although they might have appeared in the Winter Garden, if only for a benefit.

H. D., Boston.—Edwin Booth and Lawrence Barrett played in "Othello" at Booth's Theatre, this city, Oct. 14, 1881, for a benefit.

S. S. S., Brooklyn.—We furnish nothing but THE CLIPPER. Ask one of those you saw with one.

W. J. E., Kalamazoo.—We presume that she is still before the public. It is our rule not to answer such questions.

H. H. H., Kalamazoo.—Louis James and Marie Wainwright played John Strebelow and Lill an under the management of James W. Collier during 1879-80, which was the first season of "The Banker's Daughter" on the road. Our file so asserts, and Manager Collier has kindly certified to its correctness.

T. H.—He is not connected with that firm.

EARNEST.—Unless you can command personal influence, there is little or no chance for you. Even if you got an opening you would receive but a nominal salary, with the naming of which you would have naught to do.

MANNIE AND ELLA, Montreal.—The only advice we can conscientiously give you is that you abandon your intention.

C. V., Londonville.—We publish nothing but THE CLIPPER.

CORRESPONDENT, Erie.—Agents do not care to do business for amateurs, it being too difficult to get them a date. 2. See the card of Ed. James, and address him. They may have to be made to order.

I. W. T., San Francisco.—Address him in care of CLIPPER Post-office. Furnishing addresses is against our rule.

A. H. M.—It has been played in dozens of theatres. Send us something to indicate which one of several versions you mean, and to what city you have reference.

C. F., Philadelphia.—Call on some show-printing house in your city.

NANNIE.—The letter is still in this office.

Z. Z., Keene.—Dr. W. F. Carver can be addressed in our care. Watch our Routes Ahead.

Cards.

READER.—The dealer can open the pot.

M. L. S., Rochester.—Straights are not generally played in whiskey-poker, being practically of but little value. If you agree to play them, the ace counts both ways.

F. G. B., Boston.—A could call out on the sweep.

W. W.—The two players who did the euchring take the stakes, dividing them equally. If they did not, you may be certain that in ninety-nine cases out of one hundred A, who had eight to go, would have been allowed by B to make his point, when A had one to go and B two.

G. A. N., Parker's Landing.—1. No. One partner represents the other. In a single-handed game anybody has a right to demand that the cards be cut; but in a partner game these matters are between the dealer and the player on his immediate right. 2. The dealer can insist upon the cards being cut.

W. S. S., Baltimore.—Spades are a natural point in cassino.

P. V., Baltimore.—See reply to "W. S. S., Baltimore."

C. F., Newark.—He could not play alone.

D. J., Richmond.—The ace is high in cutting at seven-up.

O. M. M., Dubuque.—The cards should be dealt one at a time.

READER, Troy.—A loses. It cannot be done.

W. B. W., Minneapolis.—Sancho counts before pedro in sancho-pedro.

CRIB, Erie.—He can take the three at any time.

J. C.—B goes out on his nine, high and game, having had eleven to go at sancho-pedro. Sancho counts before pedro, which is why the game is called sancho pedro.

BIG CASSINO, Washington.—B could count himself out on cards. It was not necessary to play all the cards, as he had twenty seven.

H. H. JR., Camden.—The age does not transfer. It is C's bet.

J. H. D., Wheeling.—It was his play to pass.

L. M., Rochester.—An assisted player cannot go alone.

J. P., Elmira.—Seven can be made in one deal at seven up.

R. C., Tyler.—He cannot do so.

O. A. F., Avon.—There is nothing in your statement for us to give a decision upon. If you mean to ask us if B's hand was foul, you have told us nothing by which we can judge whether it was or not. If you mean to ask us if a man can raise on a foul hand, the answer is—Yes. He can put into the pot all the money he can raise; and, while he cannot get a penny of his money back if he is called, he can get it all back and win everybody else's if he is *not* called.

DETROIT.—If he acknowledged that his opponent's cards beat him, that settled it, unless the opponent chose to give up.

C. A. G., Brooklyn.—No answers as to double pinochle. It is played in too many ways, unlike pinnochle proper.

J. D.—The count for 3, 3, 3, 9 and 9 is twenty.

J. R., Cameron.—You can say to your partner: "I order it up and go alone." Really, a player does not order up his partner; but you may as well say that as "Turn it down, I go alone." Practically, your partner would neither take it up nor turn it down, but you could go alone all the same.

DICK L., Pittsburg.—The man must have a show at poker for his money, whether it is a limit game or not. In what is known as gamblers' bluff there is no show, and money will win.

NEW READER, Muscoutat.—1. See Miscellaneous. 2. A blaze is a hand composed wholly of face cards.

J. B., Newaygo.—B wins with his low game.

Political, Legal, Etc.

C. E. S.—The President of the U. S. pays his own expenses out of his salary, except that the Government furnishes him with a residence.

M. F. S., Manchester.—So far as the rules you forward show to the contrary, the initiation fee is properly one dollar again.

KING WILLIAM.—In this State a girl does not become of legal age until she is twenty-one.

SUFFIELD.—A child of English subjects is not eligible to the Presidency of the United States, whether born on the high seas or in the White House, Washington.

D. W., St. Louis.—Thomas Jefferson was elected to the Presidency by the Republican Party, as the Democrats (now the Democratic-Republican Party) were then called.

H. T. H., Newport.—There was a law, and it was enforced for many years along about 1855, prohibiting smoking in the streets of Boston and most other New England towns. It is probably the law yet, but it is not enforced.

CELTIC.—You having been born in this country, of Irish parents, your son is eligible to the Presidency of the United States if he is thirty-five years old, notwithstanding that your wife was born in England.

PASHA, Lynn.—1. Roscoe Conkling was born Oct. 30, 1829. 2. We do not propose to perplex ourselves over any such delusive thing as individual wealth.

J. T.—Sec. 142 of the Code of Criminal Procedure provides as follows: "An indictment for a crime, other than murder, must be found within five years after its commission, etc;" but Sec. 143 provides that no time during which the defendant is not an inhabitant or resident within the State is a part of the limitation. So that you lose, as a man can be indicted beyond the period of five years, in a certain contingency.

SILVER M., Elgin.—Minister Lowell's son, if born abroad, would be eligible to the Presidency; so would your son similarly born while you were temporarily abroad, assuming that you are an American citizen.

Billiards, Pool and Bagatelle.

B. F. O., Warren.—The pin was not down, unless its base was at least two inches off its spot.

SUBSCRIBER, Philadelphia.—1. In our opinion, your custom is right, for the reasons given last week. 2. There is no difference between fifteen-ball pool and pyramid, as it is called in this country, except that in one the number of balls count and in the other the numbers on the balls, and that, instead of incurring the penalty of three points marked off, as in fifteen-ball pool, in pyramids a ball goes back onto the table. As to all else the practice of the two games should be the same, and they are in this country. The game of pyramid proper, which is English, differs in several respects from what is called pyramid here. 3. It makes no difference, provided that the foul occurs after the cue-ball has been hit. If committed while the player was taking aim, the stroke would be foul throughout, and the pocketed ball would not count. 4. There is a slight probability that for the approaching championship pool tournament a code may be drawn up that will be satisfactory to roomkeepers generally, and that will supersede the half dozen conflicting codes now in existence. We have recommended that it be made distinctly to cover both fifteen-ball and pyramid, so as to simplify matters.

C. R.—The highest three-ball carom run on record is 1,531.

J. G. B., Philadelphia.—There was no app puse at all when McLaughlin reached 691 in his run. There was a clapping of two pairs of hands in different parts of the hall when he reached 690. This is readily susceptible of proof, because a watch had been set to see how 691 would be received by the audience in case McLaughlin should get there.

W. H. B., Washington.—Schaefer is a year younger than Slosson.

R. F., Chicago.—The run of McLaughlin has been variously published as 685, 686 and 804. THE CLIPPER, which had a representative there, is the only paper that has given the correct figures—804.

L. S., Philadelphia.—1. Schaefer and Slosson have played the Champion's Game (old 14x28 line) four times, thrice for the championship. Schaefer was beaten in the three championship games, and Slosson in the other, which was a game of five nights. 2. It was in the latter played in 1881, that "fine work" you refer to was done by an umpire on the first night.

PYRAMID, Detroit.—The reason is that we lacked your address.

Ring.

CONSTANT READER, St. John.—The essential points of what are known as the Marquis o. Queensberry rules for endurance contests are: The ring to be 24ft. square, or as nearly that size as practicable; no wrestling or hugging allowed; rounds to be of 3m each, with one minute interval; if either man be knocked down or falls through weakness or otherwise, he must get up without assistance in ten seconds, under penalty of losing the battle, the other man meanwhile to retire to his corner and there remain till the fallen man is on his legs, when the round shall be resumed; a man hanging on the ropes in a helpless state, with his toes off the ground, shall be considered down; the gloves to be fair-sized boxing gloves of the best quality, and new, a glove bursting or coming off to be replaced to the referee's satisfaction; a man on one knee to be considered down, and if struck to be entitled to the stakes; no shoes or boots with spriggs allowed.

J. O'C., Providence.—John Morrissey and Yankee Sullivan fought for $1,000 a side Oct. 12, 1853.

H. A. R., Portland.—There is no such work published. Ed. James has published the lives and battles of some of the more prominent members of the P. R. here and in England. See his advertisement for address.

S. D., Chicago.—Charles Mitchell knocked John L. Sullivan down when they met in a glove contest at Madison-square Garden, this city.

HONEST BOB, Portland.—The general opinion was that Allen was the better man on that day.

S. H. T., Machias.—1. The party you refer to is not a member of the fraternity. He can be addressed in care of THE CLIPPER. 2. When we last heard from Tim, he was so considered. 3. Probably too great a liking for the flowing bowl.

W. E.—Wm. Thompson, alias "Bendigo," died in Nottingham, Eng., Aug. 24, 1880.

OLD SPORTS.—Bill Poole was shot early on the morning of Feb. 25, 1855, died March 8, and was buried March 11 following.

Athletics.

G. H. R., Spencer.—1. The late James Owens defeated J. H. McLaughlin in a wrestling-match at Music Hall, Boston, Mass., Dec. 29, 1876. McLaughlin had a short time previously injured one of his feet in an exhibition bout with Charley Murphy in this city, and in consequence was unable to do himself justice when he encountered Owens. 2. H. M. Dufur stands 5ft. 11¾in. in height.

NORTHFIELD.—1. The height of the net in handball is three feet six, the parts sagging in the centre. 2. At Peck & Snyder's, Nassau street, New York.

CLIPPER, Salem.—1. We have not had time to receive the confirmatory evidence sent for. 2. If the report already received should be substantiated, as it in all likelihood will be, the performance will of course displace all previous records in that line.

Dice, Dominoes, Raffles, Tossing, Etc.

PROF. W. B., Fulton.—Sixes are higher than aces.

S. R. C., Elmwood.—As you state the bet D. loses. He had to beat C.

Aquatics.

A. H. T., So. Brooklyn.—We would advise you to write to R. F. Coffin, at *New York World* office.

Baseball and Cricket.

J. B., Pittsburg.—The Allegheny Club played ninety-eight championship games in 1883, winning thirty-one and losing sixty-seven.

VIRGINIA.—He is understood to have signed contracts with the Virginia and Philadelphia Clubs for next season. We do not know which club he intends playing with.

Miscellaneous.

SUBSCRIBER.—1. No answers by mail. 2. State what it was that B bet, "There is no technicality of a few words" about A's proposition. It involves a plain question of fact, unless there was something in B's language, unknown to us, to make it otherwise.

J. B., Brooklyn.—It depends upon the length of the dispatch, and upon what point in England it is sent to. Distance has virtually nothing to do with it, as electricity can travel thousands of miles in a second, and one flash can form a word.

CONSTANT READER, Baltimore.—The difference in (old) time between this city and yours is 10m. 22s. When it is 12 02 P. M. in Baltimore it is 12 08 in Philadelphia and 11.18 A. M. in Chicago.

E. J. W., Chippewa Falls.—The Emperor of China has many more subjects than Queen Victoria. He has about one-fifth of the entire population of the world, or over 400,000,000.

C. W. R., Newark.—A man can win on "a sure thing."

J. L., Montreal.—W. S. Walcott ate two quail per day for a period of thirty consecutive days at Gabe Case's roadhouse, Jerome avenue, this city, Jan. 7 to Feb. 5 last.

C. H. M., San Francisco.—We have not yet received an answer to the letter written for the purpose of obtaining information regarding the matter. When we do you will find it in this column.

Z. Z., Keene.—Dr. W. F. Carver is traveling with his troupe in the Southern States, and will be at Macon, Ga., Dec. 26, 27, 28. He

BAKER, Kalamazoo.—1. The longest day in the year is June 21 usually, and the shortest Dec. 21. 2. We should have to write to Washington, D. C., to ascertain how much was paid.

G. N. R., Buffalo.—B won the bet.

NEW READER, Mascoutat.—1. See advertisement on twenty-third page. 2. See Cards.

CONSTANT READER, Troy.—1. That number is out of print. 2. We do not publish the book.

✱✱ Owing to the crowded condition of our columns this week, a large number of answers in type are unavoidably omitted.

R. W., U. S. S. Dispatch.—There is probably no type-setting machine that will do the work of ten men. There have been such machines for which a claim was made that they could do the work of six men in an imperfect way, men having to justify the matter afterwards. They have never worked themselves into favor, although they have been experimented with for nearly thirty years past.

MRS. E. R., Norwich.—If you do not receive any satisfactory reply from the firm, report the matter to the Boston post-office authorities. People can be punished for making use of the mails for fraudulent purposes.

THE CHRISTMAS THEATRICAL HARVEST.

It seems to be growing less and less every year in the metropolis. There was not a jam in any theatre in this city on the afternoon of Dec. 25. The variety houses held their own as a rule, there being but little falling-off from their accustomed Christmas-day business; but at the regular theatres the ticket-sellers and doorkeepers were not so severely taxed as to interfere with their digestion. Lower Broadway was deserted, and Niblo's Garden and the Theatre Comique especially suffered. The latter establishment, although comfortably filled, had the lightest attendance it has ever known on a Christmas-afternoon. There was a driving snowstorm; but, as it did not begin until curtain-time, it could not have seriously affected the attendance at our theatres. The most reasonable explanation of the gradual falling-off of late years is perhaps that the number of people who use this city only to make money, their established residences being in places afar off, if not in other States, is increasing, and so are the railway facilities that in a few hours can whisk them away to the pleasures of a Christmas-dinner with "the old folks at home," or with wives or children, sisters or brothers. The day seems past forever when three performances could sometimes be given here on holidays, to say nothing of Barnum's Museum, in which theatrical performances were given every hour. Thirty years ago our population was not much more than one-half what it is now; but it was more largely composed of permanent residents and householders. Even the few who were mere sojourners had to stay in town and go to the theatres, as a journey of one hundred miles was then an all-day's job. The snowstorm raging as we go to press promises to upset all the managerial calculations that had been made for Christmas-night.

AMERICAN MANAGERS owe it to themselves, if not also to the playgoing public, to give the widest greenroom publicity to the contradiction of the cable dispatch announcing that Mary Anderson is to become the Duchess of Portland. Otherwise by next Spring there will not be left in this country a solitary walking-lady, to say nothing of leading-women, of whom there are not now a dozen really good ones. All our native actresses under fifty years of age will rush over to England to wed Dukes, if this fiction about Miss Anderson is not nailed to the sill of every greenroom-door.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In wishing its myriad readers the fullest enjoyment of the richest pleasures pertaining to the season, THE CLIPPER does not consider that it is called upon to say anything as to itself, after having so bountifully set before its guests an unusual array of literary dishes, well calculated to please almost all tastes. It this week presents twenty-four pages, wherein poem and story, biography and critique, and sporting news and theatrical chronicle alike have a place.

This is the season of content and good cheer, of rejoicing and festivity. Happiness should rule in every household. Plenty should be everywhere. This ought to be the case at all times during the year, but the small portion of the world who know how the large remainder live are conscious that it is not the case at any time. It devolves upon those who have abundance to see that those who ordinarily have nothing are not in want at this festive season. This is Christmas-time, and the sermon of the hour from one end of the universe to the other should be: Remember those we have always with us, who are the poor and the sick. Joy cannot reign undisputed unless Charity is at her side; and those whose families, through the bounty of Providence, are warmly clad and well fed must not omit to give practical thought to the starved or the shivering. This is a fast age, and we Americans are the very fastest of peoples. We have little pause for sentiment. Nearly all the unction has been squeezed out of us between the upper and the lower millstone of commerce—competition in trade has left us wellnigh dry. Nevertheless, this is the season, if there ever is one any more, when people can afford to indulge in a trifle of sentiment. Christmas itself is a sentiment, and the most beautiful one the world has ever known. Much that is best in everybody's life is associated with the dear memories that cluster around the day on which salvation was assured mankind. Therefore let us permit nature, repressed though it may be during the remainder of the year, to give vent to itself during the week that closes the Old Year and the week that ushers in the New. Let us not only give to the needy, but let us also seek them out. The folks engaged in the amusement professions are proverbial for the promptness with which, by their labors behind the footlights, they render aid to all sorts of charities in which they have no immediate or direct interest. At this season they can do a great deal of good for their own kind. There are numbers of them in want. Let those who are fortunate in having remunerate employment seek out such of their brethren as have not had a "date" in a long time. There can be no fitter way for professionals to commemorate the Birth nearly nineteen hundred years ago.

In reiterating the wish that all our readers may find this "a Merry Christmas" indeed, followed by the happiest of "Happy New Years," it is necessary for us to remind them that they must not look for next week's CLIPPER until a day later than usual. Pressmen can enjoy New-Year's calling as well as other people, and it is but right that they should be given an opportunity to do so. Our last pages will not be sent to press next week until Wednesday night, Jan. 2, and the paper will come out on Thursday morning, instead of on Wednesday. Advertisers may guide themselves accordingly, and our correspondents in various cities can send supplementary telegrams that will cover New-Year's night's business at the different theatres, as well as anything else of interest that may come under their usually watchful supervision.

THE BATTLE OF THE LEAGUES.

The declaration of war issued by the American Association against the newly-organized Union Association has been boldly replied to by the new rival of the older organizations, who, having nailed their colors to the mast, pluckily propose to fight it out on the proposed line if it takes all of next Summer. The situation has become decidedly interesting, and the proposed contest for free trade and ball-players' rights bids fair to be quite exciting before the season of 1884 closes. So far as the reserved players are concerned, the question is one of a simple calculation of the chances as to which party to the contest will eventually come out the better in the fight. The older organizations say to the seceding players: "If you do not return to your club allegiance within a certain specified time you shall never enter our ranks again." This is a pretty severe penalty for resisting an alleged arbitrary rule. The question is: Will it be strictly adhered to? We think not. There is but one offense for which a player should be forever debarred from re-entering the professional arena, and that is for proven dishonesty, or in other ways acting a grossly dishonorable part. To inflict the same penalty for a comparatively venial offense is an act of injustice, warranting the legal resistance to the enactment the seceding players have resorted to. The League and American clubs, however, have chosen to make an issue of the question, and hence their action in inflicting so extreme a penalty. On the other side the question is: Can the Union Association stand the test applied? If the seceding players think they can do so, it is their bounden duty to stand by their new friends. It must be borne in mind that the action of the Union clubs is not that of a war upon League or American contracts, but simply upon the reserve-men rule. They recognize the validity of every regular contract made by any professional association whatever. But they want an open market, and are opposed to the protective law recently established by the League and American party. It is a new phase of the free trade vs. protection question which is now stirring up the hack politicians of both the existing political parties. THE CLIPPER, in its stereotyped words, says to both: "May the best man win!"

THE LITTLE LADY ABROAD.

After having hesitated for years to venture an appearance in England, for much the same reason that Maggie Mitchell has prudently avoided that country, our little Lotta certainly deserved a better reception when at last her professional prudence was overcome. According to all accounts, the audience behaved rudely, instead of in consonance with the Britishers' reputation for gallantry. The excuse is given that the demonstrations were meant as a rebuke to one of Lotta's supporting company, a gentleman who has played in this country, but who is in reality a subject of Great Britain, and since his return to that country has figured unpleasantly in a divorce court, the public sympathizing with his wife. But these marital unpleasantries are not uncommon over there, and ordinarily are not rebuked in theatres. Besides, if this actor was received with disfavor, that was reason sufficient why the same audience should have taken especial pains to assure Lotta, by more than generous treatment, that she should not suffer through being unwittingly in bad company. There is a suspicion on this side of the Atlantic that managerial rivalry may have packed the theatre to Lotta's detriment, simply using the divorce complication as a convenient cover. The basis of this suspicion is the purely professional theory that Lotta would not have appeared in England had not Minnie Palmer achieved a certain measure of success there. The theory may be unsound and the suspicion groundless. The fact remains that Lotta and her play, if the cable is to be believed, have been unhandsomely treated.

A WHITE CHRISTMAS.

The heavy snowfalls of the past week, crowned by the big storm which prevailed on the night of Dec. 23, administered a "facer" of a rare sort to those who had been led by the mild weather of the preceding days to predict that we were to have "no cold weather." Instead of the "green Christmas" which they so confidently and yet sadly prognosticated, New-Yorkers are now enjoying one of the "whitest" they have ever experienced. As we write, the sleighing carnival is at its height. The favorite drives beyond Central Park and towards Coney Island resound with the musical jingle of the silvery bells and the rippling laughter of the merry occupants of the thousands of vehicles skimming over the close-packed snow, while the proprietors of livery-stables and road-houses are brimful of the joy all mankind should experience at this festive period.

IN OUR BASEBALL COLUMNS is presented a carefully compiled and accurate account of the noteworthy, novel and sensational contests with which the past season was replete. The games that were marked by extra innings, blank scores and tie scores are faithfully enumerated, and together with the long list of eccentric clubs and contests, and incidents illustrating peculiar phases of the national pastime, will be found worthy of perusal.

BILLIARDS.

EUROPEAN MATTERS.

Garnier Again Defeats Daly.

Last week we gave the results of the first three nights in Lyons, France. Daly then stood at 1,800 to Garnier's 1,795. It was agonizingly close, and it can well be imagined that it was a terrible test of nerve. On the fourth night Daly scored 600 to Garnier's 551, which was still fearfully close work. This brought the totals up to 2,400 for Daly and 2,346 for Garnier. The strain was too much for the American, and on the fifth night he gave out, scoring only 570 while Garnier was making 654. This made the Frenchman victor by a complete score of 3,000 to 2,970. This was closer by 31 points than their previous match in Brussels, which Garnier also won. That was for 5,000 francs, and it is not likely that the match in Lyons could have been for less. Considering that Garnier had retired as a match-player in 1876 with the advent of Slosson and Sexton, that until he met Daly in Brussels last month he had played no match but one since 1875, and that then, Nov. 20, 1876, in Tammany Hall, Joseph Dion took the championship away from him by a score of 600 to 495, and that since 1876 Garnier has never got a better place in a tournament than fourth or fifth, having been behind even Daly, he may, in having beaten Daly in these two matches, be likened to "Mr. Reilly who keeps the hotel." "Upon my word, Garnier, you're doing —— well." This splendid brace (of victories) makes a complete triumph of France over America. It is always thus when Maurice Daly goes to France with his cue. The moral of Garnier's successes is that the less a man plays matches the better he plays them when at last he has to get to work. If he never played at all, he would eventually become the best player in the world. Some of these nights Daly will beat Garnier, and then America will be enabled to rejoice.

The best runs during the match of five nights in Brussels were 166, 147 and 140 by Garnier, and 140, 120 and 116 by Daly. The averages have not been made public, whence we infer that they were rather light, notwithstanding that, according to *Le Billard*, the game was that of a balkline of twenty-one centimetres, or seven inches. This makes it but little more difficult than straight-rail, which needs all the way from five to seven inches for the play of two 2⅜ object balls. The score was 3,000 to 2,839. *Le Billard* states that Daly was nervous on the last night and had a violent headache.

It was the veteran Francois Ubassy who got up the match in Lyons between Daly and Garnier. It was possibly at the same game they had played in Brussels, viz., the seven-inch balkline, which will account for Daly's run of 309.

Jenks' Pork Club, a gambling-house in London, Eng., was raided by the police a few days ago. Jenks was over here in 1881, and he and Daly dropped some money through the latter's endeavoring to play George Slosson at cushion-caroms. Although George Slosson does not pretend to know how to play that game, nevertheless Daly and Jenks quit early. Jenks was conspicuous as a bettor at one of the matches Vignaux and Slosson played in Paris.

Le Billard, which we have heretofore found correct in matters of this kind, makes Schaefer's total score 2,859, thus agreeing with *The Sporting Life* of London, while differing from all other scores, whether sent by cable or by mail, published in this country. Without tabulating it, we give the score to show the chief runs:

SCHAEFER.—16, 1, 0, 3, 14, 29, 22, 0, 0, 2, 23, 29, 4, 98, 16, 7, 125, 103, 1, 45, 27, 52✱, 2, 0, 10, 1, 63, 0, 1, 2, 54, 84, 44, 14, 6, 38, 6, 0, 2, 1, 43, 0, 16, 12, 133, 1, 0, 5, 4, 39, 99✱, 0, 97, 25, 37, 33, 88, 2, 1, 3, 5, 108, 0, 40, 7✱, 26, 3, 38, 2, 1, 3, 5, 2, 1, 1, 75, 6✱, 4, 164, 21, 67, 76, 1, 5, 62, 9, 156, 3, 69, 47, 72, 81, 3, 0, 1, 29, 18, 2, 1, 35, 0, 0, 1, 26. Total, 2,859; average, 27.51-104.

VIGNAUX.—3, 2, 15, 52, 49, 13, 3, 48, 3, 1, 0, 23, 30, 79, 26, 0, 49, 28, 0, 40, 24✱✱, 0, 40, 16, 4, 6, 3, 14, 11, 11, 2, 5, 6, 31, 12, 4, 61, 38, 8, 1, 9, 91, 15, 25, 10, 1, 83, 4, 0, 32✱✱, 0, 51, 22, 56, 13, 8, 12, 34, 153, 1, 83, 10, 119, 115, 120✱✱, 0, 65, 6, 77, 0, 55, 105, 0, 24, 165, 6, 131✱✱, 2, 9, 0, 9, 86, 21, 16, 32, 0, 0, 7, 4, 7, 4, 5, 40, 43, 6, 0, 1, 36, 0, 110, 0, 6, 78, 16. Total, 3,000; average, 28.88-104.

✱Schaefer began second night's play with 17 of this 52, and third night's with 97 of this 99. The 7✱ and 6✱ respectively closed his third and fourth nights with his "hand out." ✱✱It was also "hand out" with Vignaux at 24✱✱ and 32✱✱ on the first and second nights; the fourth he began with 28 of the 120✱✱, and the fifth with 62 of the 131✱✱.

The totals each night were: First, S. 600 to V. 488; second, S. 600 to V. 543; third, S. 543 to V. 769; fourth, S. 163 to V. 600; fifth, S. 953 to V. 600.

The averages made in these fractional divisions are not records, as only on the first night was play begun in the usual manner (that is, with balls scattered as in the opening shot), and as on some nights a player could make 769 or nearly 1,200, while on others he could make but 600. The attention of professional players is called to the scarcity of ciphers in a game in which the averages were not 29 on either side. Vignaux had but fifteen and Schaefer only twelve. It is rare for Schaefer to play a game of any considerable number of innings without having more ciphers than his antagonist.

On the last night of the match in Brussels between Garnier and Daly, the two players were, according to *Le Billard*, animated by the most friendly sentiments towards each other. On one occasion the referee was unable to decide whether or not the balls touched. Daly decided in the affirmative, although this decision was to the advantage of Garnier. This is the first time we ever heard of a referee in so important a game as a match for 5,000 francs being unable to say whether the balls were "frozen" or not. This decision on Daly's part undoubtedly was a gift of the stake, five thousand francs, to Garnier. America may be outscored in ivory, but she cannot be beaten in generosity.

While the match for 10,000 francs in Paris had several innings to play, a halt was called. Arrangements for another match for 10,000 francs were progressing, the understanding being that each player would put up one-half of the stake as a forfeit. This occurred in presence of the audience. Lucien Piot was interlocutor, and Schaefer and Vignaux the endmen. Piot put the conundrums necessary for the public to hear, and Vignaux guessed them. *Le Billard*, issued on Dec. 2, announced that the entire sum had been deposited with Piot as stakeholder, and that the game would commence on Jan. 10.

The American Exchange, the new Paris paper, says that on the closing night, although Schaefer started nearly 500 points behind, he actually overhauled and passed Vignaux, having made nearly nine hundred while the Frenchman was making three hundred and fifty; and that, "had not fatigue impaired his powers towards the close it is probable he would have won." *The American Exchange* proceeds to announce that they will play another match in January, without its stopping to reflect that probably they would not have arranged to play another match in January or at any other time in France if Schaefer had won this one. Vignaux would have "kicked," would have refused to play any more, and that would have interfered with the various purposes of Daly and Schaefer's trip to France. As it is, this is the first time Vignaux has ever beaten an American in Paris and consented to play him again, although invariably challenged. Why, in this match for 10,000 francs they had for referee a player with whom Vignaux last year was not on speaking terms, if he has been this year. He is of course just the person Vignaux would accept for referee if he did not know what he was doing. Nevertheless, "everything goes," and this was a match for 10,000 francs.

Up to Dec. 10 the following was the standing of the contestants in the handicap tournament at the Royal Aquarium, London, the game being the English one of winning-and-losing hazards:

	Won.	Lost.		Won.	Lost.
W. Mitchell	4	0	F. Bennett	2	2
G. Collins	3	1	J. Roberts Jr.	1	3
W. J. Peall	2	2	J. Hennett	1	3
J. G. Sala	2	2	T. Taylor	1	3

In a match for the championship of Australia, decided at Melbourne recently, between J. Byrne and F. Weiss, the

former won by 298 points in a game of 1,000 up. The stakes at issue were £200 a side. It is proposed to send Byrne to London to study the English game under Joseph Bennett, one of England's four or five ex-champions.

ST. LOUIS.

J. F. Donovan Defeats W. H. Catton.

For several weeks past the all-absorbing theme in billiard circles in St. Louis has been the match between these gentlemen, the first being proprietor of Monarch Hall and the other having been quite busy with the cue for many years past, although he does not claim to be a professional. The match was one in which Catton was to double-discount his antagonist at 800 points of the regular three-ball carom game, on two nights, Dec. 18, 19, for $500 a side. The match resulted indirectly from the game these two men played in St. Louis about two months before, wherein Catton rode the pony balkline against Donovan's straight-rail, and won by 300 to 101, Catton averaging 7.13-41 and Donovan but 2.19-41, the best run of the winner being 26, while that of the loser was 33. Considerable money then changed hands. A few days after the new match was made, or on Nov. 30, Catton made a run of 719 on the rail, which so elated his supporters that the report was started that Donovan intended to pay forfeit, deeming it useless to struggle against one capable of such a performance. Believing that Donovan contemplated nothing of the kind, we gave no currency to this report, which events have proved untrue. Anyone who can average three or four points to the run without the rail always has a chance to win at double-discount against a player who cannot ordinarily average ten without a liberal indulgence in rail-play, as it is possible to keep the latter from getting the rail oftener than once in a dozen or more innings; and the effect of this ultimately will be to render him powerless to play to good advantage when the rail comes to him. There were not many persons who took this hopeful view of Donovan's chances, and consequently the betting was two to one in favor of Catton at the beginning. Donovan, however, was master of the situation, as it turned out; and there are a number of St. Louis sporting-men who now believe that double-discount is heavy odds for even a man who can run 719 to give to one who is doing remarkably well if he runs 70.

The contest opened on the night of Dec. 18 in Baldwin's Turf Exchange. The referee was Bub Harris, Ed. Block was marker, and Ed. Warren was umpire for Catton, while Frank Knight acted for Donovan. The betting at the start was two to one in favor of Catton That night he made a total of 1,014 points, his average being 16¼; but the odds of double-discount reduced his string to 334 when Donovan had scored the needed one-half of the game. Catton's friends were disappointed at not seeing him run seven or eight hundred, if not one thousand. His best runs were 215, 118 and 107, while Donovan's were 59, 56 and 52, proportionately far superior to the highest runs of the odds-giver. The Exchange was again crowded on the second night, 19. Betting was now even, Richard Roche having announced that he would take all that anybody wished to invest on Catton, as he preferred Donovan's chances. Before the resumption of the contest Donovan was the favorite at two to one, and there were few takers even at that. He started with 47, which, added to the 9 he had made before quitting the night before, made his inning worth 56, and reduced Catton's score to 240. Catton's best run in his first twenty-two innings on his second night was but 57, and his total but 189. Later on he made runs of 51, 100, 68, 187 and 59 pretty close together; but a run of 63 in the 115th inning by Donovan settled matters. The leader now had but 4 to go. It took him eight innings to make them, so great was the excitement. Catton had but 414 on his string when game was called, so that the discount, which might have amounted to 1,599 points, reached but 1,478. He averaged nearly 15½. We give the score:

CATTON—0, 0, 2, 0, 95, 2, 0, 1, 24, 9, 1, 17, 2, 0, 0, 0, 1, 6, 96, 92, 1, 11, 0, 5, 1, 0, 0, 9, 0, 16, 2, 1, 1, 10, 6, 0, 16, 1, 48, 0, 0, 14, 0, 0, 46, 0, 118, 7, 2, 7, 1, 10, 0, 13, 0, 5, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 215, 0, 1, 13, 36, 2, 2, 9, 3, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 36, 11, 7, 5, 0, 2, 57, 3, 4, 0, 4, 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 22, 0, 90, 0, 35, 3, 1, 0, 21, 1, 1, 0, 51, 100, 3, 0, 1, 68, 187, 10, 5, 59, 2, 14, 0, 0, 0. Total, 1,892.
Total, less discount, 414; average, 15.47-123.

DONOVAN—1, 0, 1, 59, 27, 8, 6, 0, 7, 6, 4, 6, 0, 1, 6, 3, 0, 1, 0, 10, 6, 4, 1, 1, 1, 2, 0, 5, 1, 3, 0, 1, 4, 1, 1, 0, 0, 8, 15, 2, 0, 56, 0, 3, 1, 0, 11, 9, 3, 3, 29, 7, 0, 52, 0, 1, 4, 1, 4, 0, 5, 0, 56, 0, 18, 4, 21, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 4, 0, 2, 1, 12, 11, 0, 1, 0, 18, 1, 2, 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 1, 9, 1, 1, 6, 69, 0, 13, 1, 3, 1, 1, 8, 36, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 6, 22, 8, 63, 0, 0, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, 1. Total, 800; average, 6 62-123.

Supporters of Catton have offered to match him to double-discount Donovan in a game of 400 or 500 points. It has also been proposed that Catton shall give him three discounts in 500 points if Donovan will lay $500 to $250. Having decidedly the better of the situation up to date, Donovan will take his own good time to think about these propositions, which at present he declines to seriously entertain, disdaining, like a good general, to treat with the vanquished.

Moulds of this city is to be matched to play Coit of New Orleans at ball-pool.

There is some chat about matching Catton to play T. J. Gallagher at straight-rail.

The final game in the amateur tournament at the room still known as Mussey's was played last night by Ed. Block, scratch, and C. Coley, who received 55 points in the handicap. Forty-nine innings produced a victory for Coley, who scored his 200 when Block had reached 178. The loser had one inning less than the winner. The result gives Block third prize, and ties Coley and Spencer for first and second prizes, which will be played off to-night.—*Globe-Democrat*, Dec. 21.

George Wheelock has offered to match Gallagher to double-discount Donovan—number of points not stated—for five hundred a side. Donovan has not jumped at the chance, whence it is to be inferred that the number of points named was not more than 800.

H. Kinney has made a match with L. W. Perkins, now of Chicago. They were to have played at C. E. Mussey's room, Chicago, within fifteen days of Dec. 3. The announced stake was $500 a side, and the game straight-rail, 600 points up. A forfeit of $100 was put up. That was all that was put up, Kenney being unable to find backers. He was released from the match on payment of half the forfeit, $50. It is promised that about Dec. 25 he will make a new match with Perkins for $500. He is again in St. Louis.

A MATTER OF RECORD.

It is very important to know what is the best run of record at the three-ball carom game in America. We were in Philadelphia and saw it made. It was 804. John F. Gleason was there and saw it, and so were George F. Slosson, Al. Rice and many others who spotted McLaughlin's string when he had run but 600, and saw that he had 196 up. Before positively stating in our last issue that the run was 804, we had written to the one individual best qualified by his position to know exactly what the run was. This is the reply of the marker of the game:

COLONADE HOTEL, Philadelphia, Dec. 15, 1883.

EDITOR N. Y. CLIPPER.—*Dear Sir:* Mr. McLaughlin had 196 buttons on his string when I called "804 and game." Yours truly,
P. LEVY.

STRAY SHOTS.

*** "The Cincinnati Kid" is playing pool occasionally at the Columbian Room, this city.

*** Many matters of interest will be found treated of in the regular billiard columns on an outside page.

*** We shall have to defer our article on the leading rooms of Philadelphia.

*** Charles Slosson, in his new quarters in New street, is working up a profitable ball-pool game. Charley needs more customers less than he does more tables, as he has but four of the latter.

*** C. E. Mussey has taken out one of the two pool-tables in his room in Chicago, and placed a "carom" in its place.

*** Leslie Slosson is wearing the blue ribbon. His certificate of membership is for one year. It is his first enrollment.

*** Tim Flynn has put the new Collender cushion on the tables in his popular room in Nassau street.

*** A pool tournament has been going on at 348 Orange street, Newark, N. J., for some time. There are ten contestants. Among them is young Dougherty, of whom we have heretofore spoken as a promising player.

*** Frey and Knight are to give an exhibition in Music Hall, Waterbury, Ct., Dec. 26.

*** For some time a pool tournament had been in progress at the room of the Athletic Club, Elizabeth, N. J. It was well conducted and prolific of much enjoyment to participants and spectators alike. It closed on the night of Dec. 20. The appended table shows how the different sets of games resulted, and also that Lawton won first prize and Adelberg second:

Adelberg beat Demarest	3 to 2
Lawton beat Odiorne	3 0
Odiorne beat Demarest	3 0
Lawton beat Adelberg	3 0
Adelberg beat Odiorne	3 0
Lawton beat Demarest	3 1

*** We omitted to state last week that "the chubby addition to Thomas Foley's family," which had made him so happy, is simply his eldest daughter, who had returned from a three months' stay at the East, during which she has gained about a dozen pounds. Friends in all parts of the country have been sending Foley and his estimable wife their congratulations, just as if a baby had arrived! As there was nothing at all in the paragraph about a baby or a christening, this shows how prone the world is to jump at conclusions. It has also satisfied Foley, whose family have received letters about it from friends residing all along the line from New York to Omaha, that THE CLIPPER circulates somewhat.

*** At the Rink, Danbury, Ct., Harry Eaton of that place and M. J. Houlihan of Newtown played two series at pool, the best in eleven, on Dec. 21. Houlihan won both. The room was very cold, and consequently the playing was poor. The receipts were ten dollars, and the expenses fifteen.

.... Captain John H. Davis of Mt. Sinai has received from Mr. Jaffrey $500 for the loss of his thumb by the premature discharge of a cannon. He was master of Jaffrey's yacht.

ATHLETIC.

COMING EVENTS.

Dec. 29—Athletic games of the Seventeenth Separate Company of Infantry—Flushing, L. I.
Dec. 31—Indoor exhibition of the Williamsburg (L. I.) Athletic Club—Club-house on Wythe avenue.
Jan. 9—Curling match, North vs. South of Scotland—Central Park, N. Y. City.
Jan. 10—Curling tourney, Gordon medal, Van Cortlandt Lake, Yonkers, N. Y.
Jan. 23—Interstate curling match, New York vs. New Jersey, Hamilton medal—Prospect Park, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Jan. 24—Match foot-race, 100 yards, Fred Hurst vs. H. Wetley—Mahanoy City, Pa.
Jan. 30—Curling match, Scotch vs. All Nationalities, McLintock medal—Van Cortlandt Lake, Yonkers, N. Y.

ATHLETICS IN BOSTON.

The indoor games of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Athletic Club were held on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 22, in Boston, and, the competitions being interesting and the attendance good, the meeting was successful. The first exercise was a standing high jump, and this was won by F. H. Young, '86, whose score was 4ft. 9¾in. The fence-vault was won by A. H. Twombly, '87, who cleared 6ft. 9¾in, The first trial tug-of-war heat, between the classes of '86 A and '86, was won by the latter by 3in. The second heat, between the classes of '85 and '87, was won by the former by 1¼in. In the light-weight sparring G. Kirkham, '87, and J. F. Kilburn, '87, participated, and Kilburn was declared the winner. In putting the 16-pound shot, F. H. Young, '86, led all competitors, his distance being 33ft. 2¼in. S. W. Bowles Jr., '87, and C. C. Pierce, '86, contested in the middleweight sparring-match, and Pierce was declared the winner. The final tug-of-war, between the classes of '85 and '86, was won by the latter by 6in., the victorious team consisting of P. Winsor (anchor), A. S. Garfield, P. Q. Robbins and J. W. Smith. Officers: Referee, F. H. Briggs; judges, W. H. Bunce and F. M. Haines; clerk, H. P. Baldwin.

M. K. KITTLEMAN publishes a card in the California sporting papers in which he offers Archie McComb a start of one yard in seventy-five, or two yards in one hundred, for any amount not less than $1,000 a side, and will let him name any place in the States to run; only insisting that the money be placed in some responsible man's hands at the time of accepting either of these offers. He also states his readiness to run Fred Harmon or any man in the States one hundred yards, for from $2,500 to $3,000 a side, near San Francisco, and offers C. F. Gibson a race at 150 yards for $500 a side upward. Kittleman's address is the Lick House, San Francisco.

CHARLES SMITH AND MICHAEL SHEEHAN ran a match-race of one mile for $200 a side at Hampden Park, Springfield, Mass., Dec. 20. The ground was covered with snow, which of course prevented good time being made; yet the race was interesting to the not very large assemblage who gathered to witness it. Smith went off with the lead, which he retained for nearly three-fourths of the journey, when Sheehan passed him, finally winning by three yards in 6m. 30s. Ed. Higgins was referee.

THE ST. PAUL (MINN.) ATHLETIC CLUB gave their first exhibition on Monday evening, Dec. 17. There was quite a good attendance of spectators, who expressed themselves well pleased with the entertainment. The principal event on the long programme was a five-mile handicap race, which was won by M. Goodkind, 8m. start, in 40m. 5s.; P. A. Johnson, 1m. 30s., second, in 34m. 10⅗s.; and J. J. Byrne, 11m. 32s., third, in 44m. 43s.

BREED AT IT AGAIN.—We are informed that on Dec. 19, before witnesses and on a wager with a friend, who kept score and is satisfied that all was correct, Charles O. Breed, the strong man of Lynn, Mass., put up a 31b dumbbell from shoulder to arm's length six thousand times, without rest, in an hour exactly, being an average of one hundred times a minute.

JOSEPH MASTERSON has resigned his membership of the Olympic Club of San Francisco, Cal., for the reason that the judges at the games held on Thanksgiving-day refused to allow him a record of 7⅛s in his attempt to lower the figures for 75 yards. The cause of their refusal was that the runner got about five yards the better of the pistol.

THE BROOKLYN ATHLETIC CLUB held an election a few days ago with the following result: President, Q. C. De Grove Jr.; vice-president, R. A. Maxwell; secretary, F. T. Eldridge; treasurer, C. F. Cowperthwaite; managers, J. G. Hudson, A. H. Lanchantin and C. T. Hopper.

THE WELLESLEY (MASS.) ATHLETIC CLUB will hold games in Girard Hall, Wellesley, Jan. 2. The events will be tug-of-war, 525lb; standing high-kick, running high-kick, Scotch high-kick, running high-jump and club-swinging, all open events; running high-kick, for members only.

THE WELLS MEMORIAL GYMNASIUM, Boston, Mass., has offered a handsome gold medal to the member showing the greatest proficiency in the general branches of gymnasium work during the year. Six other medals will be given for excellence in general work.

GEORGE MASON (holder), George Littlewood, Sam Day, Wm. Smith, George Cartwright and Albert Pierce (colored) are among those contesting in the 72-hour go-as-you-please race at Sheffield, Eng., this week. Littlewood was the favorite.

JOHN KEEN and A. H. Robinson have arrived in London. The former is inclined to think that there is not an amateur bicyclist in England who will be able to defeat George M. Hendee next year.

PROF. WM. MILLER on Nov. 7 defeated Edward Blackburne in a wrestling match, announced as for $1,000 a side and the championship of Australia, at Melbourne, Victoria. He won the second, third and fifth falls.

FRED HURST of Mt. Pleasant, Pa., and H. Wetley, a Canadian sprinter, have been matched to run one hundred yards, for an announced stake of one thousand dollars, at Mahanoy City, Pa., Jan. 24.

C. J. RUETER, '84, J. H. B. Easton, '83, E. F. Woods, '85, and E. G. K. Noyes, '85, of Harvard, have put their names down as candidates for the American lacrosse team proposed to be sent to England next year.

FRED ENGELHARDT'S combination of bicyclists opened Dec. 24 for one week at Causey, Harkins & Co.'s skating pavilion, Salt Lake City, Utah.

HIRAM SIMPSON defeated Howard Thomas in a race of one hundred yards, for an alleged stake of one thousand dollars, at Pullman, Ill.

THE SEVENTEENTH COMPANY of Infantry will hold their second annual athletic games at their armory in Flushing, L. I., on Saturday evening, Dec. 29.

H. M. DUFUR having received challenges from J. H. McLaughlin, John McMahon and Ed. Decker, he proposes to make matches with them in the order given.

GEORGE H. HOSMER announces that he is ready to meet any man in America, John Meagher barred, in a level walking-match of ten miles.

GEORGE WALSH of Royton, aged forty years, and James Nuttall of Manchester, Eng., a year older, famous sprinters in their day, recently ran a quarter mile, Walsh winning in 59⅛s.

CURLERS from New York and Yonkers played the opening game of the season on Dec. 18 on Van Cortlandt Lake, at the former place.

THE Y. M. C. A. GYMNASIUM of Boston will hold an exhibition Jan. 15.

B. R. WISE, who a few years ago was the crack mile-runner of Oxford University, is now practising law in Sydney, N. S. W

CAPT. SCATTERGOOD and about thirty members of the Albany, (N. Y.) Bicycle Club visited their Troy brethren Dec. 19, and at the latter's new quarters indulged in tennis, boxing, shuttlecock, etc. Before going home the visitors were "refreshed."

JAMES MCLEAVY.—This unfortunate Scotch pedestrian, well known in this city, has been an inmate of the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, for more than three months, and is likely to be dismissed as an incurable, the physicians asserting that the symptoms are paralytic. He has had one of his feet amputated, and will probably lose a hand. Those of poor open-hearted Jimmy's friends here who may wish to aid him financially in his distress can forward their mite to Joseph D. Ross 224 London road, Glasgow, Scotland.

THE NEW YORK JOURNEYMEN PLUMBERS announce their annual ball to be held at Ferrero's Assembly-rooms, Tammany Hall, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 8. This organization gives open-air games each year, in connection with their picnic, and they have gained an enviable reputation for admirable management; so that all who are fond of having "a good time" should make themselves visible on this occasion.

DENNIS A. DRISCOLL is stated to have accepted George Hosmer's challenge for a level ten-mile walk.

A LETTER is awaiting T. C. Herbert, pedestrian, at this office.

CRICKET.

THE AUSTRALIAN TEAM to visit England next season will represent the full strength of Australia. Several trial-matches are to be played with the view of deciding on the best team. The visitors, it is said, will include Murdoch, McDonnell, Bonnor, Palmer, Boyle, Blackham, Giffin, Cooper and Evans. All but Cooper and Evans have been connected with previous visiting teams. Cooper is a good bat and field, and on dry wickets a very difficult bowler. Evans has long held the reputation of being one of the best all-round men in the colonies. The cricketing season in Australia opened in October last with some enormous scoring, Percy McDonnell having made 162, not out and 118, not out, and Lewis—late of Ballarat and supposed to be the coming batsman of the colonies—having contributed 237 to the mammoth total of 680 credited to the East Melbourne Club in a game with the Fitzroy Club Oct. 27.

A TEAM OF PHILADELPHIANS will visit England next season. The fixtures already arranged include games with the Gentlemen or amateur elevens of Sussex, Cheshire, Leicestershire, Hampshire, Derbyshire, Kent and Norfolk Counties, the Marylebone Club and the Harrow Wanderers. The tour opens early in June at Brighton, and closes the first week in August at Norwich.

AQUATIC.

COMING EVENTS.

Jan. 28—Scullers' match, William Elliott vs. George Bubear, $2,000—Thames River, Eng.
March 10—Scullers' match, Wallace Ross vs. George Bubear, $2,000—Thames River, Eng.

REMARKABLE SWIM FOR LIFE.

We take from *The Pall Mall Gazette* the following particulars of a wonderful swimming feat in the Southern seas: "Details of a remarkable swimming feat have just come to hand from Auckland, New Zealand. Capt. Haultain, who is 32 years of age, and weighs, we are told, 196lb, commands a sailing-vessel trading on the New Zealand coast. The night of Sept. 9 was, it appears, an excessively stormy one, a strong gale blowing from the east-south-east, dark, rainy and unusually cold. About 2 A. M. his ship was making for the entrance of the Whangarei Harbor. The captain himself was upon the deck, occupied with some alteration of the rigging, and while clearing away some ropes was caught by the peak "down all" and flung clear of the ship into the raging sea. Capt. Haultain had on at this time a heavy overcoat, high sea-boots up to his thighs, two pair of trowsers, two shirts and two undershirts. Taking it for granted that a boat would be sent back to look for him as soon as possible, he swam with these appalling incumbrances upon him, as near as he could tell, for about half an an hour in the wake of the ship, coo-ee-ing, after the fashion of Antipodeans by land and sea. No boat, however, appearing, he felt that his only chance was to strike out for the shore. At this time he was no great distance from the Frenchman at the mouth of the harbor, and he succeeded in stripping himself of his load of clothes and of his long boots, an operation which in itself must have been exhausting enough, necessitating as it did frequent dives. To make the nearest land he soon found was hopeless, on account of the strong ebb-tide that was running, and he had nothing for it but to head for the opposite shore of the harbor, three miles distant, which two or three lights made visible through the darkness. This extraordinary feat—extraordinary, that is, when the circumstances are considered—he succeeded in accomplishing, and he was picked up after being three hours and a half in the water clinging to the beach with his hands, half senseless, his legs having lost all power of action and the surf breaking over him. His schooner had been driven ashore upon the same beach a short time before the captain reached it, and it was by his own crew that he was rescued some three hours later. The Auckland papers speak of it as the most wonderful performance that has ever been enacted upon the New Zealand coast, and claim for Captain Haultain the mantle of the unfortunate Webb. They note the fact, also, that he was such a determined abstainer that even when half dead and totally numbed with exhaustion he refused to swallow even a spoonful of brandy.

WALLACE ROSS arrived in Boston, Mass., on Wednesday, Dec. 19, accompanied by his wife. He called at Ruddock's boat-shop and suggested a few alterations in his shell, after which it was placed on board of the steamer State of Maine, upon which he left for New Brunswick. After spending Christmas with his parents he will sail for Liverpool by the Allan line from Halifax. He intends to return in April.

PETER PRIDDY, the young Pittsburg sculler, is desirous of visiting England, and having a row with anyone near his own age over a distance of from two miles to that usual in championship races. Wallace Ross will try to find him a customer over there.

HARVARD will, we understand, decline the challenge issued by the University of Pennsylvania to row an eight-oared race next season. The reason assigned is that the college cannot make arrangements for such a race and at the same time fulfill its engagements with Yale and Columbia.

WILLIAM ELLIOTT and George Bubear have made a match to row over the Thames championship course, England, for $1,000 a side Jan. 28. The former is in training on the Tyne and Bubear on the Thames.

THE HARVARD CREW will begin regular work Jan. 3, as will the class crews. There is a great boom in rowing at Harvard this term, as is shown by the fact that over seventy-five men are trying for the various crews.

THE PARTIES who some weeks ago took steps in Pittsburg, Pa., towards the formation of a professional rowing association have concluded to allow things to remain "as you were" till the Springtime comes again.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen will meet in this city on the second Saturday in January, when a revision of the rules will be in order.

DAN BREEN of the West-end crew of Boston, Mass., has for two weeks been confined to his home by an accident.

THE INTERCOLLEGIATE ROWING ASSOCIATION will meet at the Fifth-avenue Hotel, this city, at 1 P. M. Dec. 27.

THERE IS A LETTER in this office for Joseph T. King.

THE TURF.

RACING IN AUSTRALIA.—J. White, the Australian turfman, was very successful at the principal race meeting of the year in the Colonies, held at Melbourne, Victoria, Nov. 3 to 12. With Martini-Henry, by imp. Musket, dam Sylvia, by Fisherman, he won the Melbourne Cup, two miles, carrying 103lb, in 3:30½, and the Victoria Stakes, a mile and a half, 122lb up, in 2:39, the value of the stakes being respectively $10,785 and $6,135. With Iolanthe, 2 years, five furlongs, he won the Maribyrnong Plate, the filly carrying 117lb. His total stake-winnings during the meeting aggregated $25,880. Over one hundred thousand persons were estimated to have been present at the cup contest, in which First Water (112lb) finished second and Commotion (141lb) third, the latter being beaten but two lengths. In all the principal events the Australian record was lowered.

SALE OF THOROUGHBREDS.—Messrs. McIntyre & Swiney of Lexington, Ky., on Dec. 20 sold the following thoroughbred horses: Katie Pearce, 11 years old, by imp. Leamington, dam Stamps, by Lexington, sold to Pierre Lorrillard, New York, $4,150; Lizzie S., five years old, by Wanderer, dam Katie Pearce, Milton Young, Lexington, Ky., $2 150; Redstone, one year old, by Wanderer, dam Katie Pearce, John R. Swiney, Paris, Ky., $1,900; a bay filly weanling, by Virgil, dam Katie Pearce, D. Swigert Lexington, Ky., $1,220.

LUCKY ENGLISH TURFMEN.—The leading winning owners on the English turf for the year 1883 are: Mr. Lefevre, £20,536 17s.; Lord Falmouth, £18,434; Sir F. Johnstone, £17,551 11s; Mr. R. Peck, $16,505 15s.; Duke of Hamilton, $12,529 18s.; Mr. L. de Rothschild, £11,782 16s.; Duke of Westminster, €8,304 17s.; Lord Rosebery, £5,699 17s.; Lord Ellesmere, £5,249 12s.; Lord Grosvenor, £4,189 14s.; Lord Zetland, £4,153 18s.; and M. Gerard, £4,027.

JIM RENWICK defeated Patsy Duffy in a mile-and-a-quarter dash at the Oakland, Cal., track Dec. 15. Time, 2:09. Same day and track, Joseph C. Simpson drove his trotting stallion Anteeo, four-year-old, without skip or break, in 2:20½. Orrin Hickok, John Goldsmith and other noted turfmen held watches on the trial.

THE Kentucky Racing Association on Dec. 20 changed the date of their opening day for the Spring meeting of 1884 to May 7, the meeting closing May 14, which will give turfmen twenty-four hours more time to get to Louisville from Lexington.

THE WINTER RACE-MEETING at the track of the new Louisiana Jockey Club, New Orleans, La., was to have been inaugurated on Christmas-day, when three races were carded. There are a number of stables on the grounds, and the racing will be continued while the public patronage extended warrants it.

THE DIRECTORS of the Pittsburg (Pa.) Driving Park Association have elected S. S. Brown president, James Chambers vice president, and Mr. McIntosh treasurer. A discussion over the question of secretary resulted in a decision to advertise for a suitable person to fill the position.

THE NATIONAL JOCKEY CLUB of Washington, D. C., will hold their meetings next year on the following dates: Spring, May 13 to 16; Fall, Oct. 21 to 24. It is the intention of the management to increase the value of the purses heretofore offered.

WILLIAM BLENKIRON of the Middle Park Stud, Eng., has failed. His liabilities are placed at about $55,000, and the assets, consisting of thoroughbred horses, farm-produce, etc., at $20,000.

ROBERT BONNER, according to a press-dispatch from San Francisco, Cal., telegraphed to Joseph Cairn Simpson offering $20,000 for his four-year-old Anteeo, provided he made a four-year-old record of 2:17¼ or better on Dec. 20 or 21.

PUNSTER, the sensational two-year-old of 1882, is now at St. Louis, Mo., and will be prepared by P. S. Donovan for the Spring races of 1884.

JOHN HAMLIN of Prospect Park, Brooklyn, N. Y., has bought Skylark, by Dickens out of Redbird, and he intends to use him hereafter as a running-mate for trotters.

FOXHALL is advertised to stand at Leybourne Grange, near Maidstone, Eng., for the season of 1884.

A POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION developed the fact that the death of Majolica Maid was due to rupture of the heart.

THE RING.

RING-FIGHT IN ENGLAND.

Reeves and Regan, a couple of Surrey-side boxers, met on the afternoon of Dec. 10 in a secluded spot near the British metropolis, and brought off their match for fifty dollars. The ring was pitched on a very even piece of ground, and, though not quite the regulation size (24ft.), proved sufficiently large for all the purposes required.

Each had professional talent to second him, and, a well-known sportsman being appointed referee, the men stood up for the fight. Both sparred cautiously for an opening, when Reeves tried his left and was short. In the next attempt, however, he got home on the nose, drawing blood from an old wound on that organ, Regan retaliating on the body. Some good fighting now ensued at close quarters, in the end both men going down side by side. On facing each other for the second round Regan's face already showed signs of Reeves' handiwork, his left eye being swollen. Little time was wasted before they were together again, some good half-arm fighting taking place, and after a series of rallies all over the ring, in which Reeves continually worked for the head, Regan succeeded in knocking his man down, the round having lasted a very little over four minutes. The third round was a very long one, in which a series of rallies took place all over the ring, both men doing good execution. Regan, however, continued to fight for the body, while his opponent pegged away right and left on the face, in the end giving him a fair knock-down blow with the right on the jaw. This may be said to have settled the fight, as, although Regan stood up for two more rounds, he did not fight with the dash he had previously shown. Reeves continually planted on his face without a return, and after sending his man to grass at the end of the fifth round the latter refused to renew the contest, the fight having lasted 27m. 31s. The spectators only numbered about a score. As regards the winner, no one would have noticed he had been engaged in an affair of the kind, as what punishment he did receive was on the body. The eyes of the loser, however, showed strong signs of closing.

STEVE O'DONNELL, alias "Seddons' Mouse," was taken to the New York Hospital Dec. 24, suffering from a scalp-wound inflicted by a blow from an umbrella in the hands of a gentleman whom he is alleged to have insulted the same day. Doubtless "The Mouse" missed his Xmas "Tom and Jerry."

BILLY MADDEN is now proprietor of the premises at 120 East Thirteenth street, this city, in addition to the store on East Fifty-third street. The place adjoins Clarendon Hall, and under the new management Madden's Athletic Hall is not likely to lose the popularity as a sporting resort, with boxing and dancing room, that it has heretofore enjoyed.

HERBERT A. SLADE indulged in an overdose of jig-water in Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 19, and was taken into custody because of disorderly demonstrations. Sullivan obtained his release on bail.

THE Cleveland, O., Council Committee in judiciary have agreed to recommend the passage of an ordinance permitting sparring exhibitions, which have for years been prohibited in that city.

THE Ryan-Sherriff Combination are now on the road and are booked for a boxing matinee at Pence's Opera-house, Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 27.

DAN CUSTY, the boxer, was among those arrested by the Long Island City authorities for being present at the dog-fight in Empire Hose house.

PAT SHEA, aged 27 years, is stated to have beaten T. K. Stanley, 25 years, in a milling match for $50, soft gloves, near Boston, Mass., Dec. 17. Ten rounds were fought in an hour and ten minutes.

CHARLES MITCHELL, the English champion boxer, informs us by letter dated Dec. 12 that he will return to the States in March next.

SPORTING NOTES.

.... James Gibney, familiarly known as "Buck" McGibney, a veteran fire-laddie of this city, died on Tuesday, Dec. 18, and was buried 20 in Calvary Cemetery. He was born in the Seventeenth Ward, and had been a member of No. 3 Truck ever since the organization of the Volunteer Fire Department. He had an extended acquaintance, and his popularity was attested by the large attendance of mourning friends at the funeral, among those present being Assistant Chiefs Shea and Gicquel, many of the captains and the employes of Fireman's Hall.

.... Billy Maginn tossed one hundred rats into a barrel in thirty-seven seconds at Cavanagh's sporting-house on South High street, Baltimore, Md., on the evening of Dec. 17. Afterwards the terrier Dandy killed a score of the rodents in 4m. 50s.

.... Nell, a Pittsburg dog, and an imported canine named Jim fought for $500 at Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 19, the former winning in forty-three minutes. At the end of the third round Jim sunk his teeth into his handler's hand. All efforts to break his hold proved futile, and, seizing an offered knife, his trainer cut the dog's throat, after which an iron poker had to be used to open his mouth and release his hand.

.... The Jacob Hess Association, together with their numerous lady and gentleman friends, will "trip the light fantastic" on the evening of Jan. 9, the occasion of their annual invitation ball, at the Germania Assembly Rooms, Bowery. Tickets for this East-side fixture are in demand by those who have "been there before" and don't want to miss it.

.... Forest hill Garden, near Fall River, Mass., a Summer resort on a scale too extended and expensive for the patronage to be relied on, and which was the scene of an unsuccessful professional regatta last season, is a failure, and the company will go into insolvency this week.

.... At the instance of the State Society for the Prevention of Cruelty Sheriff McCarthy and a posse on Dec. 19, put an end to the big cocking-main arranged for decision at Logan, O. Five battles had taken place.

.... A match at roller-skate polo was played by the Chelsea and Paris Clubs at the East Boston, Mass., rink Dec. 19, the latter winning three straight goals in 32m.

.... The Wakefield (Mass.) Bicycle Club held a bicycle and roller-skating carnival Dec. 19, at which exhibitions were given by Wilmot and Sewell, Miss Carrie Gilmore and the Boston Ramblers' Bicycle Club. The latter organization was presented with a handsome silver cup by the Wakefield Club.

.... The Poughkeepse (N. Y.) Ice-yacht Club on Dec. 20 elected John A. Roosevelt commodore and T. V. Johnston vice-commodore. The club have accepted the challenge of the Shrewsbury Ice-yacht Club to sail for the championship.

.... Twenty one fox-terriers from the kennels of L. & W. Rutherford were sold at auction at the American Horse Exchange, this city, last week, the total amount realized being $580.

.... A game of polo on roller skates was played by the Boston and Crescent Clubs at the Institute Rink, Boston, Mass., the former winning three straight goals, in five, eighteen and fifteen minutes respectively.

.... Hon. William Henry, the most noted local Democratic politician in Erie, Pa., familiarly known as "Boss" Henry, died Dec. 21 at Hamot Hospital, where he had been under treatment for softening of the brain.

.... The ice-skating season at the rink at St. John, N. B., was opened Dec. 20, when the ice was in fine condition, and the attendance of brave youths and merry maidens was large.

.... August Vignol, who has figured somewhat as a professional wrestler and athlete, recently had one of his feet, which had been frozen, amputated in the City Hospital, Louisville, Ky.

.... The schooner C. W. Locke, having on board the floor of the Olympian Roller Skating rink to be opened in this city Jan. 1, 1884, is believed to have been lost at sea. It is said that steps have been taken so as to prevent any delay in the opening.

.... Game fowls can be purchased of R. G. Brown, who advertises.

.... A practice game was played by the members of the St. Andrew's Curling Club of St. John, N. B., Dec. 18.

.... The steam-yacht Edith has been bought by George N. Kenyon of Narragansett Pier, R. I.

.... A new skating rink at Denver, Col., measures 146ft. by 54ft., and is entirely free from posts and other obstructions.

.... A dog fight at Collier's Station, West Va., the scene of several P. R. encounters, on Dec. 24, resulted in the easy victory of Jack Napoleon over Crib. The amount of stake-money is stated to have been $700.

.... The Salem Club vanquished the Crescents in a match at polo on roller-skates at Chelsea, Mass., Dec. 20.

.... The Boston Polo Club defeated the Olympics in a roller-skate polo-match in Boston, Mass., Dec. 18, winning the first, third and fourth goals.

.... Says a correspondent: "London, Ont., glories in having a champion type-setter, named George L. Thomas, author of a book on fast type-setting. He has offered to wager from $500 to $1,000 that he can beat any compositor in America in a match. He is a veritable phenomenon in his line."

.... In a roller-skate polo-match at East Boston, Mass., Dec. 21, the Paris Club defeated the Chelseas in three straight goals.

SKATING, CURLING AND ICE-BOATING.

The skating season in Brooklyn, N. Y., was opened on Dec. 22 at Washington Park, on which day the new skating lake was thrown open to the public. The intense cold of that afternoon led to a small attendance only, though at night the ice was illuminated with naptha lights. The snow had made the surface rather rough in places, and it was the intention to put the ice-planes on the ice on Dec. 24, but the heavy snow falling on the night of 23 led to a temporary closing of the lake. They hoped to have it ready this week, however.

The curling season was opened at Cortlandt Lake on Dec. 22, when quite a party from the Yonkers Club had a practice-game there. The sport was interrupted 24 by the snowstorm. The freezing of the North and South Shrewsbury Rivers from shore to shore as far down as the Neptune Club, below Oceanic, put fresh life into the hardy ice-boat sailers of that section of New Jersey, and the members of the North Shrewsbury Club confidently expected that a score or so of boats would participate in the intended inaugural regatta of the Winter on Dec. 24. The pile of snow which was deposited on the previously splendid expanse of hard ice frustrated their commendable designs, however, compelling a delay of some days in the opening of the season. There are two or three new boats in the Shrewsbury fleet about whose coming exploits great things are predicted by those professing to be "in the know," and the Red-Bankers feel quite sure that ere the Spring comes one or other of their representatives will have won the challenge pennant emblematic of the championship of America, now held by the Poughkeepsie Club.

THE OLD VAGABOND.

FROM THE FRENCH OF BERANGER.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY GEORGE BIRDSEYE.

I'll lay me in the ditch to die,
Worn out and old; so let it be.
"He's drunk!" the passing crowd will cry;
'Tis well, there are none to weep for me.
Some turn their heads with scorn away,
By some a grudging alms is paid;
For, ha! 'tis the village holiday!
To die, the beggar needs no aid.

Alone, of age and hunger dire
I die: I feel the shadows fall.
I hoped at least I might expire
Within some friendly hospital;
But full are all such snug retreats
With other wretches such as I.
My life-long home has been the streets,
And there the vagabond must die.

When I was young I'd workman ask:
"Teach me your trade, to live?" "Away,
With every hour and every task
We can but keep ourselves!" they'd say.
Rich men, I often have been fed
On bones that from your table fell;
Your barns have cover'd my poor head—
I will not curse—nor wish you well.

Though poor, to honest ways I've clung;
Than steal, for alms I'd rather call;
At most, I've pluck'd the fruit that hung
Inviting o'er some garden wall.
Yet oft in prison cell for days
As vagrant I was forced to pine;
They stole the only wealth was mine—
Though poor, I own'd the sweet sunshine.

What country can the poor man claim?
To me what's your prolific earth—
Your industries—your glorious fame—
Your beauteous women—men of worth?
Once were your homes by foes o'erswept,
And strangers fed where fled your brave;
At first like a weak fool I wept—
Then hungry, ate the food they gave.

O man! why trod you not the worm
Beneath your feet, as then you should?
Ah! had you taught me work—the germ
Of common happiness and good!
No more I then had worn the ban,
But found in honor labor's prize;
Then I had loved my fellow-man—
Now as your foe the beggar dies!

LITTLE QUEEN,
OR THE SWORD SWALLOWER.

A TALE OF CIRCUS LIFE.

ADAPTED FROM THE FRENCH OF PAUL FEVAL FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY COMMODORE ROBIN,
Adapter of "The Golden Lady, or The Life and Death of a Clown," Etc., Etc.

CHAPTER IX.—POOR MOTHER!

When the Commissary-of-police gave orders to admit the distracted mother and other witnesses into his office, it did not take him long to find out all they knew: so, after assuring himself that some of the kind neighbors would see the unfortunate lady home, he quietly went to his supper, and had soon forgotten all about such a commonplace affair as the one in question.

As poor Lily reached the door of her abode she gazed in bewilderment at the crowd collected in front of the house, and slowly and painfully mounted the stairs without noticing that Medor had followed her and had taken up his place on the mat outside the door, like some faithful dog watching the room of a beloved master. Those who remained in the street saw the white-faced mother take in the bird-cage containing Little Queen's canary, then shut the two windows and draw down the blinds.

She resembled some beautiful vision more than a human being, and her large, soft eyes seemed to have a wild, scared, startled, terrible expression in them. Indeed, it was partly on account of her strange actions that Medor had determined not to leave her, for he dreaded that in the extremity of despair she might take upt to destroy herself.

He heard the windows closed, and then began to pace feverishly up and down the hall, his anguish increasing tenfold, when she suddenly stopped and began to light a charcoal fire in her little stove.

The door was not very thick, so Medor could hear her softly murmuring to herself:

"It is getting late; I must get supper ready. After her long walk she will be hungry."

She then began to prepare the evening meal in a hurried manner, but suddenly uttered a piercing shriek and pressed her two hands to her breast, as if her heart was about to burst into fragments. For about ten minutes she remained standing in the one position, and then she sank half insensible upon her bed.

Night was now rapidly approaching, and Medor feared that he would no longer be able to follow her movements, when with a wail of anquish she arose, staggered to the lamp, and eventually managed to light it.

Then Medor heard her utter two or three violent, terrible sobs, and for a moment all was still.

Uneducated street-arab as he was, Medor was painfully aware that the crisis had arrived, and with his hand upon the door-knob he prepared to spring into the room. But a rush of scalding tears came to the poor woman's relief at the last moment, and saved her reason by a miracle.

"She was here this morning," she moaned, "and now she is gone—probably forever. Oh, did she know, as she kissed her little hand to me, that we were never to meet again? Who will nurse my darling to-night? What strange, cruel hands will soothe my angel's pillow? O God—is it possible! Is she no longer with me? Am I *never* to see her again? Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy will be done—can it be Your will? Why should you punish me so *horribly?* You gave her to me, O God—Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. But why are we not *both* dead? You who are so good, O Lord, take me to my darling! Let me clasp her once more in my arms—and die. Death has no sting to me when *she* is with me."

Crawling on her knees to the little cradle, she kissed and kissed the dainty pillow until it was wet with tears.

"Have pity on me, my God! I have not done anything to offend you! Oh, *is* it possible that God can mean me to suffer so terribly! My darling! my darling! I cannot pray! Oh that I could but *die!*"

"She is becoming calmer," murmured Medor to himself, as for a few moments the unhappy woman did not utter a word; but suddenly she sprang to her feet and exclaimed with flashing eyes:

"It is cruel! It is cowardly! It is barbarous! Why do you not *crush* me to atoms, O God! You are powerful! I am weak! I cannot defend myself—and I cannot defend my child—my darling. A poor woman and a little child. I want *the hell* I have not merited! Is God blind? Is He deaf?"

Then the sorrow seemed to take another form, and she murmured in a voice resembling some holy chant:

"Pardon! pardon! pardon! I know that God Almighty will forgive me! God of Goodness! God of Love! God of Mercy! hear my prayer. I suffer too much. You can see it; do not punish my innocent child for my blasphemy. I am on my knees before you. Hallowed be Thy name; deliver us from evil and lead us not into temptation. Amen!"

Dragging herself, still on her knees, to the crucifix at the head of her bed, she held out her trembling hands in supplication and murmured in heartrending tones, while her face shone with the sublime ardor of her maternal passion:

"Holy Virgin, you who art a mother, ask God to pardon me! Ah! I had forgotten the birthmark on her shoulder. Holy Virgin, Mother of Our Lord, you have inspired me with the thought! I had forgotten that; I will go to the police-station—they may find her yet."

Springing to her feet, without even taking time to put on a shawl, she opened the door of her room and hurried downstairs, not noticing Medor in the gloom of the hallway; but the lad, who had watched every movement, glided after her like a shadow.

It was about eleven o'clock at night, and that quarter of Paris was almost deserted, so she managed to reach the police-station without attracting attention. In reply to her inquiry the doorkeeper informed her that the Commissary-of-police was absent, but "they had a clue," and the whole neighborhood had been carefully searched; but, in a word, the poor woman staggered away no wiser than when she came.

Unconsciously she wandered towards the river, and, while standing in the middle of the Austerlitz Bridge watching the dark, sweeping waters flowing beneath, a strange feeling of relief and terrible repose seemed to steal over her.

Yes! At the bottom of those dark waters there was rest from all her troubles. Low, mysterious sounds of unearthly music seemed to fill the air, and ghostly voices bade her join in their wild requiem.

One glance heavenward, one piercing cry, and she sprang upon the parapet of the bridge—but Medor, who had not quitted her for an instant, bounds forward and pulls her to the ground.

"Stop that!" he panted. "We shan't find Little Queen in that direction. Bet all you're worth she's not at the bottom of the river."

"What! Is it you—Medor?"

"Nobody else; now, just you come home home, Madame Lily, or I'll call the perleece, and then you'll have to run."

But the suffering woman's strength was exhausted, and she sank fainting upon the cold stones of the bridge.

* * * * * * * *

Two weeks had elapsed—two miserable weeks of dull, agonizing torture for poor Lily. Thanks to the faithful Medor, she had been safely conveyed to her home, and from that time the street-arab had not quitted her for an hour. Had it not been for the good-hearted lad she would have perished of hunger; but he literally forced her to eat. Having made himself a bed in the little anteroom in which she kept her wood, trunks and other articles of a like nature, he slept so lightly that the slightest movement on her part aroused him immediately. On the first day she had written a very short note, but the exertion and excitement had caused her to faint away once more. On the second day she managed to write the address—it was intended for Justin, her truant lover—and Medor carefully posted the letter. On the third day she gathered together every little scrap of clothing, playthings and other relics belonging to her darling, and placed them, carefully folded, on the little cot, which, with its clean lace curtains and the blurred photograph in the centre, on the wall, resembled a little altar or shrine. There it was that she passed all her time, her eyes fixed on the features of the absent child, her eyes filled with tears, and low moans of pain and suffering escaping her every few moments. Medor did everything. He swept and dusted the room, cooked the food, and "raised the wind"—that is to say, he respectfully tendered "my uncle" the few last remains of Lily's once handsome wardrobe; upon the proceeds they both existed, and, as Medor was contented with dry bread and she could only be prevailed upon to eat enough to keep her alive, they might have managed to live for a considerable period, at that rate.

But this was not all that the lad did; three or four times a day he would present himself at the police-station, but always returned with the same disheartening reply: "No news."

One fact seemed very strange. Rioux, the most untiring of the detectives who had started out on Little Queen's trail, and whom we have already met in old Languedoc's wagon, had very suddenly given up the chase, and even spoke of retiring from the police-force and taking a position in the employ of some foreign gentleman. Some said that the latter was no other than the Duke de Chaves; but then some people always know more about other people's business than they do themselves.

Was Lily grateful for Medor's kindness? Well, it would be difficult to say that she was, and hard to say that she was not. The fact is, she was so absorbed in her grief that she hardly knew what she was about herself, much less what other people were doing.

In any case, Medor was content to devote himself to her service without expecting either gratitude or reward.

As the days passed and no reply came to the letter she had sent to Justin, her heart became, if possible, heavier than usual, and she murmured:

"It is all over! It is all over!"

On the last day of the second week, when Medor returned from one of his periodical visits to the police-station, he found her in much better spirits; indeed, she seemed almost gay, actually trying to hum a tune that she had taught Little Queen.

"Anything new?" she asked.

"All goes well. They are hunting for her high and low," replied the lad, trying to look hopeful.

"You loved her very much, did you not, Medor? And that is why you have pity on me."

"Yes," replied the lad slowly, as his eyes filled with tears, "I did love her very much, and love her yet."

"Look at these pretty little things," holding out two little shoes; "she wore them when she was baptised. Her father was so happy that day. Perhaps he is dead, since he does not answer my letter, for he adored the child."

"Perhaps he is traveling," suggested Medor.

"Or perhaps he did not understand the meaning of my letter. I could not write much—my hand trembled so terribly. I only said: 'My dear Justin: Our little one is lost; she has been stolen. Come to my assistance.' Don't you think that was enough?"

"If I had been at the other end of the world, or on my dying bed ——" began Medor. She did not give him time to finish what he was going to say, but continued:

"No, it was not enough. I should have added: 'I do not write to you in order to bring you back to me. As soon as you have enabled me to find my child you are free again.'"

"Did you love him very much?" he asked.

"I do not know—he was her father."

"Well, I am going to see if Madame Noblet has any news," said Medor, putting on his cap and quietly leaving the room, for he saw that it was best to leave her alone.

For two or three minutes she remained plunged in thought, but quickly raised her head, as steps were heard mounting the stairs. They were too heavy for Medor.

"What if it should be Justin?" she cried, springing to her feet.

A respectful knock at the door followed her exclamation.

"Come in," said Lilly, as gently as the agony of her acute suspense would allow her. The door opened and a stranger appeared, while Lily sank fainting into a chair.

She had, however, recognized the dark gentleman who had so persistently followed her about for some time past, and whom Medor had accused of speaking to the old woman who had stolen her child.

The stranger bowed in the most respectful manner, as if half afraid and half ashamed of the step he had taken, lowered his eyes before Lily's glance of astonishment, and tendered his card with another bow. Lily accepted it and read the following inscription: "Hernan-Maria Geres, Duke of Chaves Grandee of Portugal, Envoy Extraordinary of H. M. the Emperor of Brazil."

"What can I do for you, sir?" asked Lily calmly.

"I love you," replied the Duke, not daring to raise his eyes from the floor.

The card slipped from the beautiful girl's fingers and fell at her feet as she turned away her head.

What did she care for his title and name? She hardly felt any astonishment or resentment at his audacity, for sorrow had so blunted all other feelings within her that she was almost incapable of further suffering.

"I love you passionately," continued the Duke. "I would give anything in the world, my life itself, if you would love me in return."

While he was speaking Lily had said to herself:

"I fancied it was Justin. My last hope is gone. If he has not answered my letter in two weeks, he never intends to answer it."

Suddenly turning towards the Duke, she looked him fully in the eyes and said:

"Are you rich?"

"I am very rich, very rich," was the Brazilian's reply.

"Very rich," repeated Lily, as if speaking to herself. "If I was very rich I would advertise throughout the country that he who found my child should have my fortune."

"I will do so if you desire it," said the Duke calmly.

"Why, do you love me?" she asked. "Wait! Do you know the woman who stole my child?"

"No; I only knew the child."

"Would you recognize the woman?"

"Certainly."

"Then sit down on that chair beside me."

The Duke obeyed without a word.

"I thought it might have been you who stole my child," she continued after a moment's pause.

"You are beautiful enough to compel any man to commit a crime to win your love."

Lily trembled, but said in a firm voice:

"And you have never seen that woman since—the fearful day?"

"Never! I have done what I could to find the child; I have given money daily, and promised more, in order to stimulate the activity of the detectives."

She saw that he spoke the truth and gave him her hand, which he respectfully carried to his lips.

"And why do you love me?" she asked.

"I do not know. I saw you many weeks ago; you were holding your little girl by the hand. Perhaps there are women who are more beautiful than you are—but I have never met them. Since that moment I have followed you everywhere, and you have never been absent from my thoughts."

"You love me like I love Little Queen."

"And I will love Little Queen as well as you do," replied the Duke in a low, earnest voice.

"And you have not discovered anything about her?" asked Lily, with her eyes fixed thoughtfully upon the floor. If she had glanced at the Duke she would have noticed that a sudden flush passed across his bronzed face as he replied:

"Yes; I have found out something."

Lily pressed her two hands to her heart, not daring to question him any further.

"Listen to me, madame," continued the Duke in a firm voice. "I will plead my cause and yours at the same time. I do not know who you are, and know but very little of your past life. But that does not matter. I have wealth and birth for both of us, and all I want of you is your future. When I first began my search for your dear little girl, I counted upon being able to bring her back to you in my arms and say: 'Here is your treasure; pay me for returning her to you by consenting to become Duchess of Chaves ——'"

"Duchess of Chaves ——" stammered Lily.

She was not bewildered or dazzled by the honor offered, for her sorrow was too great for her to take any interest in such matters; but she began to fear that the only person upon whom she could now really depend upon to help her find Little Queen was either crazy or in a fair way to become so. But the Duke continued in the same calm manner, without paying any attention to her exclamation of astonishment.

"But I am sorry to say that instead of being able to find the child I have only been able to find a slight clue to her whereabouts."

This time it was Lily who seized his hand and pressed it to her lips. The Duke turned pale with emotion.

"The clue is but a faint one," he continued; "I have found out that a troupe of acrobats has taken passage for America lately, and that a child three years old forms part of the troupe."

"The sea between us!" sobbed Lily. "Oh, is it possible that she is so far away?"

"Then I determined to come and tell you that, if you would consent to be my wife, my life, influence and fortune will be devoted to the task of trying to find your child."

"I accept your offer," replied Lily, calmly taking his extended hand.

Without another word he led her downstairs and helped her into his carriage, which had been waiting at the door, and a moment later they were gone.

* * * * * * * *

Hardly had the carriage disappeared when a hack drove up to the door, and a young man jumped out and asked for Madame Lily.

"She has just gone out," replied the person he had addressed the question to; "I live on the second floor and she on the third, and I saw her from my window. She went in style, too—a handsome carriage, armorial bearings, and coachman and groom in livery."

The young man sprang upstairs, and in another moment his eyes fell upon Little Queen's empty cot and the blurred photograph. With a smothered sob he sat down in the place that Lily had so recently quitted, and waited.

CHAPTER X.—JUSTIN'S RETURN.

The Castle of Monceaux was one of the most pleasing dwellings in France. Built midway between a forest of half-grown trees and highly-cultivated pastures leading down to the river Loire, the whole country surrounding had a happy, serene and gardenified look that could not fail to please even the most dyspeptic grumbler living.

This was Justin's home, and here the former King of the Students lived in company with his good mother, whose only hope in life was to see him well married.

And that did not seem to be a very difficult task to accomplish, for heiresses were plentiful in the neighborhood, and, Justin's mother being a rich widow who had openly announced her intention of leaving him all her fortune, he was looked upon as one of the best "catches" in that part of the country, especially as he was considered very good-looking and well educated. At his mother's earnest solicitations and cold matter-of-fact arguments, for she had taken private measures to discover everything connected with his escapade, he had consented to abandon the girl he had idolized, whom he had adored on his knees, and at the same time deserted the beautiful child he had sworn to love and cherish all his life. When his mother had first persuaded him to go home with her he had addressed the following note to Lily:

My mother came to fetch me. I shall soon be with you again. I could not live without you.

It was true he really intended to return to Lily as soon as possible, and it had needed his mother's strongest representations, tears and stern business arguments to get him to agree to even a momentary separation.

Then, when he reached home and moved in society once more, in spite of himself vague visions of the rag-pickers' colony caused him to shudder with disgust. Yet he did not cease to love poor Lily, though he gradually accustomed himself not to mention her name to his mother. Then a handsome young lady, one out of the few the mother had already selected as prospective daughters-in-law, was brought upon the scene; but just as people were beginning to talk about their engagement Justin broke the affair off suddenly, for the thought of the poor girl and her beautiful babe would not allow him to marry—as yet. Then another young lady, still more beautiful than the other, was invited to visit the castle, and Justin began to see that sooner or later he must succumb to the combined assaults of beauty and maternal love; but still he held out. It was at this stage of the affair that Lily's letter arrived. But the letter was given into the hands of the mother—and she put it in her pocket.

When she was alone that evening the widow read and reread the plaintive cry of the heart-broken young mother, until her own eyes grew dim with tears; and yet, what was the poor girl to her? Was she to allow her to stand in her son's course in life, and prove a disgraceful and vulgar stumbling-block forever? The time would come when he, like every other man, would look to his wife for mental companionship alone. Then, what would be the consequence when he found himself tied down for life to his mental inferior? Regret! disgust! repugnance, and finally dislike and hate. It was only natural; and the sequel would be that he would seek elsewhere for the sympathy he could not find at home. True, there was his child. A good father would put up with a great many defects in a mother's character for the sake of his child; but would not the time come when the child would also learn to despise its mother's lack of mind? Could he introduce her into society? No; certainly not. Then he would have to remain a social outcast for the rest of his life. Not a very bright prospect for any young man with a spark of ambition or respect within him. But she was a mother herself, and had to call up her sternest arguments to resist the mother's prayers for help in her hour of need. She pictured to herself how she would have felt if her Justin had been stolen from her when but an infant. Then she remembered how sad and silent Justin had been of late. He was very far from being happy, in spite of the brilliancy of his surroundings.

For ten days did Madame De Vibray struggle with her maternal feelings and her sense of right and wrong, and on the eleventh day she gave in.

"What do you think about Louise?" asked the mother, referring to the second prospective daughter-in-law.

"She is a very nice young lady," replied Justin with a sigh.

"Will you ever love her?"

"I do not think I ever shall, mother."

Madame De Vibray could not conceal a slightly impatient movement.

"Do not be angry, mother," said Justin gently. "I know I made a fool of myself with—that—poor Lily; but I *cannot* forget her." And he arose and left the room. During the rest of the day she shut herself up in her boudoir, and at about eight o'clock in the evening sent for her son. But he was not at home; and it was quite late when he again found himself in his mother's presence.

"Justin, forgive me!" she exclaimed with a sob, "I ——"

"Why, what is the matter, mother; has anything happened?"

"Something terrible has happened, and I fear you will not forgive me." With a trembling hand she held out poor Lily's letter.

Justin read it at a glance, gave a groan of despair, and almost fell to the ground.

"You still love her," murmured Madame De Vibray; "you love her more than you do me, and you will never forgive me."

Justin was as pale as death, but he bent over his mother, who was now on her knees before him, kissed her tenderly and said:

"I do forgive you, mother." But he could not remove his eyes from the fatal words inscribed by the heartbroken girl's trembling hands. "Ten days have elapsed since this letter came, and I abandoned her for you."

"You were all I had in the world," she sobbed.

"And all *she* had in the world was—our child. And now even that consolation is taken from her. Poor girl."

"Shall I go to her?" asked Madame De Vibray suddenly.

Justin shook his head sorrowfully.

"You have not wronged either of us intentionally, mother," he said in a low, sad voice. "You belong to what they call 'the world,' and you acted up to its laws and dictates. But I am *a coward!* a base, miserable coward. The world is nothing to me, and yet I have behaved as if I was a slave of the vilest part of 'the world'—rotten-hearted 'society.' But I love you, mother."

Madame De Vibray passionately kissed her son as she said:

"My son! my son! my own true, noble-hearted boy. Can you ever forget the misery I have caused you?"

"The little one is stolen," moaned Justin thoughtfully; "perhaps she is dead."

"It is too late to leave here to-day, but to-morrow we will both go and do our best to help the poor girl."

Justin again kissed his mother tenderly in reply. They spent the rest of the evening together, talking over their plans, and the following morning Madame De Vibray drove her son to the railway-station, Justin insisting upon going alone to Paris; and as she stood watching the train disappear in the distance people who knew her were heard to remark: "She has grown ten years older in a night."

Justin, on his arrival in Paris, would have been unable to declare, positively, if he had been alone or in company with other travelers during his journey.

His mind was occupied by one absorbing thought—his lost child, the image of the beautiful infant he remembered being strangely interwoven with Lily's charming features. When he found the poor room deserted, with the blurred photograph in his hand he "sat down and wept."

He firmly resolved that as soon as he was once more united to her he would make amends for his past conduct, and try and render her future life one long dream of happiness.

Suddenly he heard a footstep on the stairs, and a voice exclaiming:

"I have been a long while, but I did not want to return without making sure that there was no news. Madame Noblet has lost half her customers, and she says that we are the cause of it. But —— Hello, who are you?" cried Medor, suddenly catching sight of Justin. "Where did *you* come from? And where is Madame Lily?"

"I am waiting for Madame Lily," replied Justin eagerly.

"Do you bring her any news of the child?"

"No; I am sorry to say that I do not."

"And who are you, that you should wait for her in her room? We never have gentleman come to see *us*."

Justin hesitated what to say, when Medor continued angrily:

"Oh, I think I know who you are now; you are the fine gentleman who ran away from poor Madame Lily. Am I right?"

Justin bowed his head as a hot flush of shame mounted to his face.

"And who are you, may I ask?" he said.

"Me! Oh, I'm nobody! I'm a foundling, a street-arab, a scamp; but I would not change places with you for all your money and fine things. It was my neglect that caused the child to be stolen; so I am doing my best to work it out." He lit the lamp and placed it on the table in front of Justin, and then ran out of the room.

Ten minutes later he came back, and with flaming eyes gazed at Justin.

"If you were not here," he almost shrieked, "I should think it was some of your work."

"What do you mean?" asked Justin impatiently, for he was beginning to think Medor was either drunk or mad.

"You," continued the lad, doing his best to keep back the scalding tears that were forcing themselves into his eyes, "you are *no good*. She waited for you, but you did not come. You fattened in an elegant country-house while she *starved* in a garret. If the child had been blessed with her father's care, she would not have been stolen. Is it not so? Of course it is. But that is not all the harm you have done. She, poor Madame Lily, never spoke or thought of anybody else but Little Queen and *you*. It was Justin, Justin, Justin all day and all night. If *you* had taken her away in a fine carriage, why, it would have been quite nutural. But the other man ——"

"What other man?" asked Justin, turning deadly pale. "Speak! What other man do you mean?"

Tears were coursing down Medor's cheeks as he replied:

"I can't help crying. I have become so used to waiting on her. Ah, but listen. You made her suffer *too much*. But yet it was not that. Then who could have been in that fine carriage that she went away in? It evidently wasn't you, since you are here."

Justin sprang to his feet and stammered:

"Then —— she has gone away."

"Well, what if she has?" shouted Medor defiantly. "Hadn't she a right to go away?"

The lad's rough hand was placed on Justin's shoulder as he continued:

"And now you are *free!* I don't know much about people of your description, but I can guess what they are. She has given you a pretext, now you can go away *forever*. But let me tell you one word before you do go: *Don't you dare even whisper one word against her, or I*—the poor street-boy, the foundling—*will break your cowardly head against the wall.* Go, you elegant scoundrel! Go!"

The lad's face looked positively handsome, as with flashing eyes he glanced at the rich widow's son. Truly, the old saying about noble hearts beating beneath ragged coats has more truth in it than many of us are willing to admit. But Justin did not go. He did not utter one word of protest while exposed to the poor lad's lashing denunciation; but with a deep groan he reeled and would have fallen had not Medor caught him in his arms and deposited him upon Lily's bed.

TO BE CONTINUED.

AQUATIC.

BOATING AT YALE.

Advices concerning what has been and is doing at Yale College in the matter of the representative crew for 1884 are to the following effect: The scoring and training of candidates for positions on the Yale University crew is over. Next term the hard work of training will begin in earnest. Eleven men, on an average, frequented the boat-house every day during the past term, among them only Flanders, '85, and Peters, '86, of last year's crew. The others are: Merritt, '84; Patten, '86, Sheffield School; Cowles, '86; Storrs, '85; Blake, '85; Hobbs, '85, substitute in last year's crew; Dodge, '85, bow in the winning Durham crew at the Fall regatta; Appleton, '86, captain of his class crew last year; and Blakeslie, '85, of the Sheffield School. These men are doing much hard work at rowing on the river and walking over the surrounding country. Bob Cook, captain of the crew of '73, has made four visits to New Haven during the year, teaching the stroke. He compels the men to row on stationary instead of sliding seats. It is intended to put candidates for the crew in training at the table Jan. 15, eating together only such food as is calculated to develop strength. It is impossible to speak definitely as to who will be chosen from the eleven mentioned. Efforts will be made to get Hyndman, who returns to the college in January, to consent to be a candidate. Mr. Cook will make weekly visits to New Haven, looking after the welfare of the crew. Next term short sliding seats will be placed in the boats, and also heavy, long oars, necessary for a sweeping, clean stroke.

THE GUMTREE CANOE YACHT CLUB of San Francisco, Cal., on Dec. 10 elected the following officers: President, T. G. Cockrill; vice-president, J. C. O'Connor; treasurer, Chas. A. Jackson; secretary, J. C. Doyle; commissary, A. McGurren; assistants, S. Johnson and Captain Wren; sailing-master, Chas. E. Went; admiral, Andrew Murray.

THE PASSAIC BOAT CLUB of Newark, N. J., elected the following officers: President, W. L. Nichols; secretary, C. Joy; treasurer, H. C. Hines; captain, B. F. Lord; lieutenant, F. E. May.

THE RING.

PADDY RYAN'S EXHIBITIONS

At the Southside Natatorium, Chicago, Ill., Dec. 15, 17, were largely attended, and those present seemed to be thoroughly satisfied with the return given for their money. The chief sets-to on the first evening were those in which the beneficiary engaged with Wm. Sherriff and Thomas Chandler (both of which were marked by science and good punching), and that between Jim Connelly, the one-eyed boxer from the East, and Frank Glover. The latter, which was chockful of salt and pepper, was brought to a sudden end in the third round by Connelly breaking one of the bones of his left arm. He was attended by Dr. Powell, and at last accounts was getting along as comfortably as could be expected. There were two or three other sets-to, with wrestling, club-swinging, cannon-ball-tossing, etc., by way of variety. Nearly the same programme was presented 17.

THE LILY SOCIAL CLUB of Williamsburg, L. I., who take considerable interest in sporting matters, gave an entertainment at their rooms, North Fifth and Fourth streets, on the evening of Dec. 20. The programme embraced a spirited set-to between Frank Crysler and Jack Williams, a box between a couple of more youthful members of the club, club-swinging by George Greis, and singing by Messrs. Flaherty, Lawler and others.

JOHN CONNORS of South Brooklyn polished off Mike Kelly of Williamsburg, L. I., in a glove fight under the Queensberry rules at Blissville, L. I., Dec. 19. They were stated to have fought for two hundred dollars, and Kelly had all the pepper he wanted after milling three rounds.

PADDY MCDERMOTT has shaken the sands of Coney Island from his feet and opened a sparring academy at 330 Fulton street, in the City of Churches, where he will be pleased to instruct the youth and middle-aged in the noble art.

JOHN H. CLARK of Philadelphia has withdrawn the deposit of $250 he put up at THE CLIPPER office some time ago, no one having manifested a willingness to accept the proposition made by him.

TOM MCALPINE, known throughout the States by reason of his doings in connection with the P. R., will take a benefit at Germania Hall, Seventh avenue and Twenty-sixth street, on Thursday evening, Dec. 27. He will wind-up with Denny Costigan, and promises lots of sport besides.

A SPARRING EXHIBITION took place at London, Ont., Dec. 18, under the auspices of Jack Stewart, and among the sports who took part were Don Ewer of Port Huron and Robert Wright of Detroit, Mich., together with local sports. The wind-up between Robert Wright and Jack Stewart was worthy of note. Altogether the affair was a success.

LIVES AND BATTLES OF THE IRISH CHAMPIONS,

From 1769 down to the Present Time.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER, BY NED JAMES.

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JACK DOYLE.

Of all the tight boys of the sod
Who wield the shillelah or fist,
Or carry up bricks in a hod,
There's none on the whole of the list
More willing to box all who came.
To stand up in front of his arm.
Were they little or big, 'twas the same—
He'd all of their jackets well warm.
His name it was Mister Jack Doyle,
In land of the shamrock was born,
Who without a spree would soon spoil,
And be quite lonesome and forlorn.
'Tis true Jack sometimes got beat,
But never for want of true pluck;
Not given was Doyle e'er to cheat,
But such was this Irishman's luck.

The love for a bit of a fight seems to have been contagious in the days of O'Kelley, and permeated almost every class of society from the dustman to the duke, and anyone who could handle his mauleys well, no matter how low his station, met with a nod or a few shillings from the heavy swells whenever he appeared in public. The costers, wagoners, navvies, coal-heavers, butchers, cobblers, tailors, potmen, tinkers, link-boys, turnkeys, sweeps, jarveys, draymen, scavengers, boatmen, grooms, soldiers, sailors, and all kinds of menial laborers seem to have been hail-fellow-well-met with the sporting nobs during the reign of the Georges. The dwellers in the Jewish section of London, known as the Holy Land, comprising Houndsditch, the Minories, Algate, Whitechapel and the never-to-be-forgotten Petticoat Lane, formed a conspicuous branch of the pugilists, and were courted instead of despised, as many of the Hebrew race have always been.

A striking instance of the democratic spirit of the age may be gleaned from the following anecdote: Lord Barrymore, nicknamed Hellgate because of the devilish tricks and fancies he played on the unoffending inhabitants of Brighton, was a boon companion of the Prince of Wales, then a young man and the life of all parties, who was joined in all day-and-night sprees by the young nobleman and other eccentric characters who visited his palace at that period. Hooper the Tinman, a lightweight, but a lion-hearted boxer, possessing more courage than brains, was in the pay of his lordship, and his almost constant companion when he wanted to kick up a row. A dashing London performer named Donadieu was driving his gig up North street, and came in contact with Lord Barrymore, who was in his phaeton and four, and, because Donadieu did not give way to his lordship the latter horsewhipped him soundly and then drove off, laughing at the insulted and enraged performer. In the course of a few days afterwards he met Barrymore, but the latter refused to apologize, when the performer, without further ceremony, pitched into his lordship right and left, and would have licked him off-hand had not Hooper appeared in sight, when Lord Barrymore called out to him to lend a hand. The Prince of Wales (afterwards George II), looking out of the palace, instantly cried out: "Damn it, Barrymore, fight like a man! Behave like a gentleman! Two to one, shameful! Show fair play! fair play!" The Tinsman ran off as fast as his legs could carry him, and "Hellgate" sneaked away, to all appearances ashamed of his conduct.

Jack Doyle's partisans claim that his ancestors were the Doyles who fought under King Brian Borohme, who was killed at the battle of Clantarf after having defeated the Danes in twenty-five engagements. They belonged to the Dalgais, the favorite troops of King Brian, who were intercepted at the above battle by Fitzpatrick, Prince of Ossory. When the wounded men entreated that they might be allowed to fight with the rest, "Let stakes," they said, "be stuck in the ground, and suffer each of us, tied to and supported by one of these stakes, to be placed in his rank by the side of a sound man." Between seven and eight hundred wounded men, pale and emaciated, and supported in this manner, appeared mixed with the foremost of the troops. Never was such a sight exhibited before nor since.

Doyle's Pugilistic Career.

Hibernian Jack was determined in his manner, and set-to with a resolution perfectly undaunted; and, although not one of Fortune's favorites in receiving the smiles of victory, yet Doyle is entitled to respectful mention in the annals of pugilism. In height about five feet eight inches, weight 145lb, and well versed in the science, his name is rendered conspicuous from his memorable contest with Jack Drake, who also figured as a very clever boxer when he defeated B. Tredaway at Blackheath, Eng., in 1785. According to the spectators, a better battle was never witnessed, and for thirty minutes, the time it lasted, it was impossible to decide which was the greater hero. Every exertion was made by Doyle to make his opponent cry enough, and Drake with equal intrepidity endeavored to improve every chance till he had perfectly satisfied Doyle there was no alternative but that of giving in. It is supposed, for the time the above battle was contested, it was a most furious and determined one.

Doyle next entered the list at Blackheath with a man named Chitty, a coal-heaver, for 20 guineas, on Dec. 19, 1786. It was a terrible conflict, contested with the most determined resolution for a considerable time on both sides, but in the end Doyle was proclaimed the conqueror. This was the coal-heaver's only battle. Doyle entered the list with Savage in Stepney Fields, Eng., on Nov. 22, 1787. It was a most desperate contest and continued for near fifty minutes, the men fighting with great impetuosity, victory for a long time appearing doubtful, and not until Doyle was severely milled did he acknowledge that he had got enough. Mike Ryan seconded Doyle and Tom Johnson performed the same office for Savage. Bill Dean fought Doyle in Harley Fields, Eng., and both combatants displayed great valor during a long and punishing battle. Doyle strove hard to obtain the victory, but Dean put in a superior claim and had the satisfaction of being proclaimed the winner. Dean does not appear to have figured again in the roped arena.

Tom Tring, the big porter of the Carleton House, had the good luck to beat the courageous Doyle at Kennington, Eng., Aug. 13, 1787, also lowering the colors of Tom Pratt, but was knocked into a heap by Big Ben Bryan, champion of England, at Dartford, in 19m., December, 1789. The battle was for ten guineas, and will serve to show what kind of men Doyle had to stack up against.

Doyle was also vanquished by a bruiser known as "The Sawyer" at Deptford, Eng., in April, 1788.

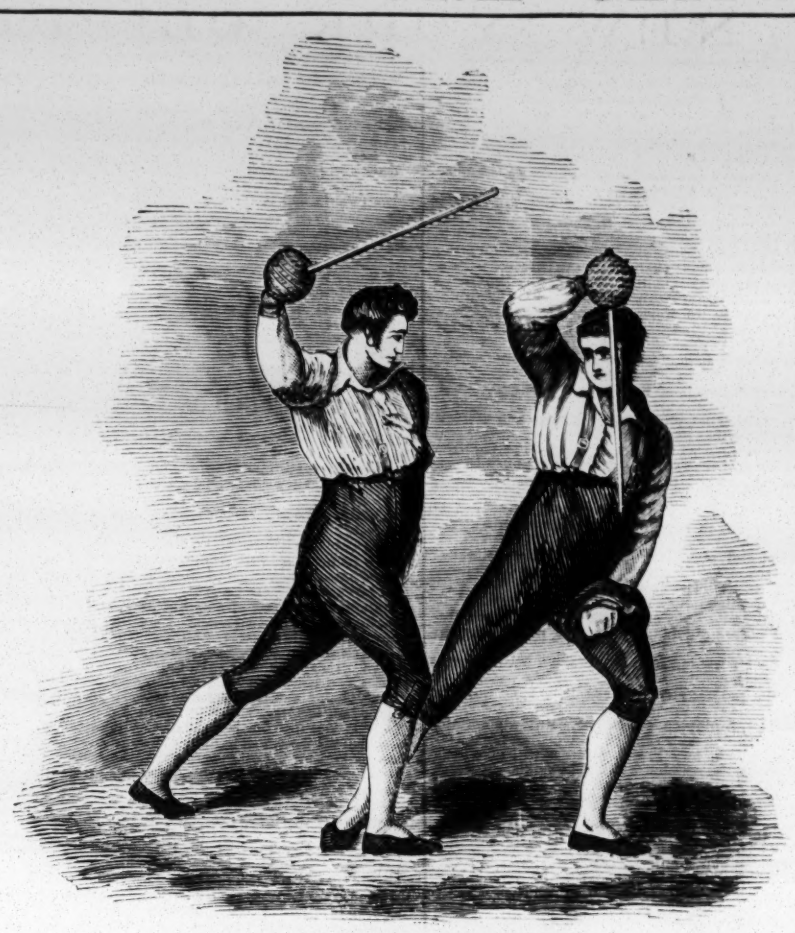
Killarney.

THE WORDS THAT MICHAEL W. BALFE'S CHARMING MELODY HAS PERPETUATED.

By Killarney's lakes and fells,
Em'rald isles and winding bays,
Mountain paths and woodland dells,
Memory ever fondly strays.
Bounteous nature loves all lands,
Beauty wanders everywhere,
Footprints leaves on many strands,
But her home is surely there!
Angels fold their wings and rest
In that Eden of the West,
Beauty's home, Killarney,
Ever fair Killarney!

Innisfallen's ruined shrine
May suggest a passing sigh,
But man's faith can ne'er decline,
Such God's wonders floating by.
Castle Lough and Glenna Bay,
Mountains Tore and Eagle's Nest.
Still at Mucross you must pray,
Though the monks are now at rest.
Angels wonder not that man
There would fain prolong life's span:
Beauty's home, Killarney.
Ever fair Killarney!

No place else can charm the eye
With such bright and varied tints,
Every rock that you pass by
Verdure broiders or besprints;
Virgin there the green grass grows,
Every morn Spring's natal day,
Bright-hued berries daff the snows,
Smiling Winter's frown away.
Angels, often passing there,
Doubt if Eden were more fair.
Beauty's home, Killarney,
Ever fair Killarney!



A CUDGEL COMBAT.

Music there for echo dwells,
Makes each sound a harmony;
Many-voiced, the chorus swells,
Till it faints in ecstacy.
With the charmful tints below
Seems the heaven above to vie;
All rich colors that we know
Tinge the cloud-wreaths in that sky;
Wings of angels so might shine,
Glancing back soft light divine:
Beauty's home, Killarney,
Ever fair Killarney!

Cudgel-playing as a National Pastime.

In days when the cudgel held sway,
It was quite an elegant sight
To see men cut and slash away
With all their power and might.
To draw the first blood was the point
Whenever they could bring to bear
The cudgel so as to disjoint
The ear from its neighbor the hair.
To see a man's nose split in two,
With a gash or two over each eye,
Proved each had the courage true-blue,
Would fight, but would never say die.
No boxing-gloves, pads or the like
To protect them from danger or blows;
If they couldn't parry the strike—
Kerslash! it would land on the nose.
Such scenes were far better to see
Than pistols or foils or sword-blades,
As all must with us agree
Unless they may be in the trade.

Whether Ireland derived its name from the Yr, the Runic for a bow, in the use of which weapon the Irish were very expert, or it was called the land of Ire because of the constant broils there for four hundred years, seems to be a vexed question. None of the historians of the land of factions and fights from the earliest times to the present seems to have satisfied himself as to how or from where it got to be called Ireland at all. It may have been from its romance and superstition, its beautiful lakes and rivers, its picturesque hills and dales, and the clannishness of its various counties. Certain it is that while united in any common cause they will stick up for the spot where they and their ancestors belonged; it is common for travelers to hear one county "running down" another, although the unprejudiced tourist fails to notice the distinctions they seem to recognize except in the different accents or brogues of the various counties. In Dublin and Belfast he meets polite, enterprising, stylish people of both sexes, well-behaved and sober. In other sections outside the large towns or cities the people are more reckless and dissipated, apparently from lack of example or idle habits. They will be found warm-hearted and hospitable everywhere, but with the "craythur" aboard ready for almost anything. We were surprised to see the mounted constabulary armed with carbines, because it is rather the exception than the rule to find an Irish peasant, beggar or rough carrying anything more formidable or dangerous than a "bit of a switch," as they call a stout blackthorn stick, hardened by having been kept up the chimney for a month or two. In addition to the "peelers," barracks are found all over, and are always full of troops. The soldiers never dream of civil trouble when quartered in the stations in Great Britain or Wales, but when doing duty in portions of Ireland they feel uneasy, expecting trouble of some kind at any time. The English army and navy, being well sprinkled with natives of the Emerald Isle, as is also the police-force, places the Irish members in a very unpleasant position, because no native loves his country more dearly than do the Irish, even to the third and fourth generation.

The introduction of the cudgel, or single-stick, dates back so far that we cannot undertake to say when. It was common in the Eleventh Century, and the displays between Friar Tuck and Little John upon the green in the days of Robin Hood must have been something worth while going a long distance to see. The gipsies were excellent cudgel-players, and their exhibitions at country fairs and racecourses excited general admiration. They, however, have been long superseded by the sparring booths and other sideshow attractions. The great Irish warrior Con, credited with having won a hundred engagements before he was killed in battle, was passionately fond of cudgel-practice, and it formed the principal amusement of his soldiers in camp. Shilleleh fights are as ancient as the sunburst itself, and up to the doing-away with Donnybrook Fair they were quite common among the peasants; and when "under the influence" they will crack each other skulls to-day as agreeably as they used to a century ago.

Pat Healey, the first Irish boxer of note whose performances have been presented in this history, was very clever with the stick, while Peter Corcoran could outplay all the mess; and to prove his skill on one occasion he is said to have allowed his lieutenant to use his naked sword while he took the cudgel, and then he not only disarmed the officer, but took his sword from him and belted him over the head in the excitement of the contest. All soldiers and man-of-war's men were taught the use of the cudgel as well as of the bayonet and cutlass, as were also the police, who at the present time carry a cutlass when patrolling dangerous beats in various parts of Great Britain and Ireland. The army and navy still continue the exercise as a matter of drill and daily duty, using long hickory sticks with basket handles. To show the nature of this dangerous sport, we append the rules governing contests:

Cudgel-playing or Single-stick Rules.

1. The basket-sticks to be three feet two inches in length.
2. The winner of most heads to carry the prize.
3. Should a stick break or fall out of the hand, and the adversary, not observing, strike, and the blow so given draw blood, the head, nevertheless, not to be allowed.
4. No head to be allowed except the blood runs an inch above the chin.
5. The umpire to decide all disputes.
6. The tiers to play with one another in the order they become tiers—that is, the winner of the first head to play with the winner of the second, the winner of the third with the fourth, and so on.
7. The first tier being on the stage, the second is called, and if he appears not to play the first, after being repeatedly called, he loses his right to further play, and the third tier is called; if he appears not, the fourth is called, etc.; and if none appears to dispute the prize, it is adjudged to the first tier.
8. If the tiers are played regularly off, supposing the tiers to be four, being each winners of one head, then the two winners of these four, being then tiers of two heads each, play for the prize.
9. If the number of tiers is uneven (suppose three) then the winner of the first head plays with the winner of the second, and the winner of these plays the remaining tier, the prize belonging to the victor.
10. When two parties play together, if one side gets six heads out of seven, and supposing the players to be seven a side, yet the seventh may insist on playing till he loses his own or wins the other heads, in which case he carries the prize.
11. The stage should be not less than sixteen feet square, the ring of ropes from forty to fifty feet diameter.

ATHLETIC.

PITTSBURG ATHLETIC CLUB.

This new club gave an entertainment at the Coliseum, Pittsburg, Pa., on Saturday evening, Dec. 22. The attendance was as good as could be expected considering the near approach of the holidays and the outside attractions incidental to the season. The first event on the programme was a game of lawn-tennis. After an interesting contest C. E. Painter and G. H. Hostetter won the doubles and C. E. Painter the singles. Painter was awarded a handsome silver cup by the club as the first prize. A tug-of-war between teams made up of J. Rosseau, A. Alston, C. Pfathl and D. Tobin on the one side and C. Yeager, Possell, Cornish and Henry on the other resulted in a victory for the former after a stubborn pull. Then came a series of running high-jumps and kicks, and standing high-kicks. There were several contestants in each, but C. K. Yeager proved the winner in each trial. His record was five feet seven inches for running high-jump and seven feet eight and one-half inches for running high-kick. A second tug-of-war was then indulged in between the losers in the first match and the Beltzhoover team, made up of Beltzhoover, J. Tobin, M. Ferron and Mulholland. The latter four proved easy victors after a brief pull. Following this came an interesting game of polo on roller-skates between the following teams: C. K. Yeager, captain; Hemphill, goal; Lee, Lyle and Baird on the one side, and Grant, captain; Possell, goal; Hoover, Knapp and Hamilton. The former won by a score of 5 to 0, and were awarded a silver cup. The final tug-of-war between the Rosseau and Beltzhoover teams was a splendid struggle. The former got a slight advantage at the go-in, and, retaining the same with bull-dog tenacity for five minutes, the limited time, were declared the victors and awarded the cup. John Hoffman of Allegheny came next in a series of trapeze specialties, and the entertainment came to a close with several very lively soft-glove bouts between members of the club.

NEW CLUB FOR BROOKLYN.

Prominent residents of Brooklyn, N. Y., have inaugurated a movement looking towards the formation of an athletic club modeled to some extent after that of the N. Y. A. C., under the new departure taken during the past year. A meeting was held last week, at which a temporary organization was effected by the election of Daniel Chauncey Jr. as chairman and H. C. Duval as secretary. A committee of ten was appointed to report upon the question of site, plan of building, etc. The club proposes to raise $100,000 for the purpose of putting up a handsome building, and already $50,000 have been pledged towards that end. Among the persons interested in the movement are Latham A. Fish, Henry W. Maxwell, George W. Chauncey, H. D. Polhemus, Ferdinand Ward and W. W. Richards. Preliminary plans for the building have been made. In the basement it is proposed to have eighteen bowling-alleys; the first floor will be partially devoted to stores; in the second story will be a gymnasium and sparring and fencing rooms, while the third floor will be set apart for lawn-tennis courts, billiard and card rooms and every facility for social enjoyment. The membership of the club will be limited to 500. We have not heard that it is the intention of the club to have open-air grounds and track, or that the practice of amateur athletics proper forms part of the purpose of the projectors.

THE COMING SIX-DAY RACE.

Announcement has been made that Madison-square Garden, this city, has been secured for the six-day go-as-you-please pedestrian tournament some time ago arranged for by Charles Rowell and Patrick Fitzgerald, through their respective backers, Peter Duryea and Thomas Davis, and which is open to all pedestrians who are able and willing to join in the sweepstakes by depositing $500 apiece. The money due from Rowell and Fitzgerald, the present entries, is already in the hands of the stakeholder, and all others who wish to take part in the tourney must sign the agreement and put up the amount named three weeks previously to the commencement of the race, on Feb. 25. The settlement of the question as to where the contest should be held was due to the fact that W. H. Vanderbilt consented to reduce the rent of the building to five thousand dollars for the week—in itself a very exorbitant sum, although but one-half of the rental previously paid.

HARRIGAN vs. GRIFFIN.

A collar-and-elbow wrestling-match between Michael Horrigan and Patrick J. Griffin, best two in three fair backfalls, for $250 a side and the heavyweight championship of Massachusetts, took place at Webster Hall, East Boston, Dec. 21. The contest was spirited throughout, and the satisfaction of the spectators with the earnestness of the display made by both principals was evinced by the frequent applause. The first fall was won by Horrigan in exactly two minutes from the time of taking hold, the second was awarded to Griffin because Horrigan broke his hold in falling, the second round having occupied thirty-five minutes, and the third was given to Horrigan owing to a like fault on the part of his antagonist. Referee, Frank P. Maguire; umpires—William McLellan for Horrigan and J. H. Walsh for Griffin.

YOB, who recently won a "muffin-carrying" match in London, Eng., offers to walk or run any muffin-carrier there two miles, with 30lb weight on the board, for as much as $50 a side.

GRAND NATIONAL CURLING ASSOCIATION.

The executive committee of this Association met at the Homestead, Broadway and Fiftieth street, this city, on the evening of Dec. 21. James Stewart of the Yonkers Club, vice-president, called the meeting to order, the genial secretary, David Foulis, occupied his usual position, and the following clubs were represented by the delegates named: New York Caledonian, W. Walker; New York, A. McIntosh; New Jersey, James Stevens; St. Andrews, T. Nicholson; Yonkers, James Kellock; Thistle, J. Watts; Empire, A. Maxwell; Brooklyn, G. B. Lewis; Brooklyn Thistle, John Thomas; Manhattan, General M. A. Bryson. An animated discussion followed the reading of the application made by the American Curling Club for admittance to membership in the Association, a number of the delegates who are Scots to the core objecting to the admission of the club for the reason that the constitution thereof limited the membership to native-born Americans, and they regarded the fact that Scotchmen were not eligible as sufficient reason for the exclusion of the new club from the ranks of the Association. Upon being put to vote, however, it was found that the majority favored the admission of the club. The dates of the annual fixtures were then arranged, as follow: North vs. South match, for the Dalrymple Medal, Jan. 9, at Central Park; Gordon Medal tournament, Jan. 10, Van Cortlandt Lake, Yonkers, N. Y.; Interstate match, New York vs. New Jersey, Hamilton Medal, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 23; McLintock Medal match, Scotch vs. All Nationalities, Jan. 30, Van Cortlandt Lake. A communication was read from Colonel Stevenson of Montreal, Canada, extending an invitation to all curlers to attend the Winter carnival there, commencing Feb. 4. Information was also received to the effect that there is a likelihood of a grand match, North vs. South, taking place at Toronto, Ont., to which the curlers of the States would be invited.

JAPANESE WRESTLERS AT LOGGERHEADS.

From *The New Orleans Picayune* of Dec. 19 we clip the following account of an alleged contest "for keeps" on the 17th between two Japanese wrestlers who had been giving exhibitions nightly at the St. Charles Theatre: "They had been quarreling with each other all the evening at their rooms in the Lee House on Camp street, opposite Lafayette square, and at midnight they ejected all the other members of the troupe, locked the door of their room, and, without seconds, judges, timers or anybody else, went at it. For at least an hour the struggle, which must have been a terrific one, lasted. Not a sound, save now and then the dull thud of a heavy body falling on the floor or a snarl similar to that of an enraged bulldog, could be heard to denote that anything unusual was going on. At the end of an hour one of the wrestlers opened the door and presented a most woeful appearance. He was a mass of scratches and bruises from head to foot, and his clothing was in tatters. He was the victor. His opponent was found lying exhausted on the floor, with blood streaming from his mouth, his lip being badly cut. His eyes were closed and terribly swollen, and it was found necessary to convey him to the Charity Hospital, where he was placed in Ward 12. His injuries are not of a dangerous nature, but his face is swollen, disfigured and discolored, so that his best friend would hardly recognize him."

ATHLETICS IN MINNESOTA.

The first public exhibition of the Minneapolis (Minn.) Athletic Club was given Dec. 19, and it was a complete surprise to a large audience. The exercises consisted of general gymnasium work, which was so well done as to show the skill and painstaking efforts of the managers and instructors, Barnes and Duplessis. At frequent intervals the various feats performed called out the hearty applause of the delighted spectators. The entertainment opened with some excellent work by a class of four on the flying-rings. Following came an admirable double trapeze-act by Henry Lawrence and Eugene Day, two Minneapolis High-school boys who have attained considerable proficiency. John S. Barnes executed a clever Indian-club act, swinging it while standing upon a revolving globe. A class of ten were put through the horizontal-bar exercises, and next was seen an exciting sparring match between Eddie Duplessis and Hallie Watson, both lightweights, who did excellent work. James and Robert Taylor performed a fair brother act, followed by Prof. C. O. Duplessis in one of the best Indian-club juggling-acts ever seen in that city. A large variety of movements, a number of which were exceedingly difficult, were executed with a skill and grace that stamp the Professor a master of this exercise. Hallie Watson and Eddie Duplessis indulged in a Graeco-Roman wrestling-match, best two in three falls, which was won by Duplessis after a hard struggle. Barnes and Penfield had an exciting bout with gloves, a standing-jump of four feet and eight inches was made by the class, a mile race was won by F. H. O'Connor in 5m. 32s., and the entertainment closed with acrobatics by the class and boxing by Prof. Duplessis and a pupil. The club, although only six weeks old, has a membership of 175, and is prospering finely in every way.

HOSMER DEFEATS MEAGHER.

The ten-mile square heel-and-toe walking match between George H. Hosmer of Boston and John Meagher of Lawrence, Mass., came off at City Hall, Lawrence, Dec. 21. There were over 1,000 people in attendance, including a delegation from Boston. Carroll and Butler sold pools on the race, the choice being Meagher, who sold at $10 to $8. Many private bets were made, and Meagher was by long odds the favorite. The race was for $300 a side. E. B. Clark of Boston was referee. Meagher allowed his opponent 300 yards start. At one minute past nine the word was given, and both men dashed off at a rapid gait. Hosmer was in fine condition, which Meagher was not, and after the latter had completed his third mile he was seized with vomiting and nose-bleed. It was then clearly seen that had John been guided by a good trainer he would have been better prepared for such a race. On the second mile he took one lap from Hosmer, but the latter kept him busy, they alternating in the lead until Meagher completed the sixteenth lap on his sixth mile, when he withdrew and notified the referee he was out of the race. Hosmer continued until he completed seven miles in 59m. 30s., when the referee declared him the winner. The track, measured eighteen inches from the pole, was one of twenty-five laps to the mile. Meagher appeared very sick after leaving the track, the trouble being located in his stomach. He was very weak, and after being dressed he told our reporter that he had been fairly beaten. He will learn a lesson by this race, and when again in harness will probably procure an experienced trainer. Hosmer proved himself a good man, and if a new match results probably no concessions will be given, but both men toe the scratch.

NIKIRK DEFEATS PRIDDY.

The half-mile match-race between Ed. Nikirk and Pete Priddy the oarsman, for two hundred dollars a side, came off at the Exposition Grounds, Pittsburg, Pa., on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 22. About two hundred spectators were in attendance. The weather was most unfavorable for outdoor amusements, while the track was in bad shape and heavy with snow in places, notwithstanding that a scraper was used on it for some time previous to the race. Kelly Johnson acted as referee, while Fred Plaisted held the stakes and George Smith officiated as timekeeper. Considerable betting was indulged in, with Priddy a favorite, until just before the start, when the odds took a shift and Nikirk had the call. The men were sent away to an even start shortly after three o'clock. Nikirk went right to the front, and within the first 250 yards had opened a gap of at least fifteen yards, and these relative positions were maintained to the finish. Nikirk's time was 2m. 6s., which must be regarded as excellent, when the condition of the track is considered. Priddy says that he was clearly overmatched in this race, but that he will run Nikirk again any distance from one mile to ten.

HARMON vs. KITTLEMAN.

Concerning the recent race between these professional sprinters at Portland, Oregon, we find the following details in *The Breeder and Sportsman* of San Francisco: "Captain Buchanan, owner of the steamer Traveler, was selected as referee, while Jas. B. Jordan acted as judge for Kittleman, and 'Frenchy,' Harmon's trainer, in the same capacity for Harmon. Joe Buchtell, a man well known in Portland, fired the pistol, after Harmon broke over the mark four times, which, under the rule, he was allowed to do, it not being a penalizing start, although a standing one. On the fifth attempt they got away with Harmon in the lead, which at fifty yards was estimated at about two feet, and which was reduced to one foot at the finish, with Harmon in front. The gait must have been terrific, for all three watches of the timers—D. A. McMillan, Sam Jones and W. D. Robinson—marked 9⅗s. The pools and bets, instead of being declared off, as was stated by the telegraph, were paid the same night without protest."

HENRY LUTZ AND FRED KURTZENHAUSER on Dec. 20 engaged in a Graeco-Roman wrestling-match for $50 at Germania Hall, Williamsburg, L. I. The conditions were the best two in three falls, but at the end of an hour, during which only one fall was gained, and that by Lutz, the proprietor of the hall would not allow it to go on, and the referee, Mike Haas, ordered that the principals finish at some future time.

JOHN HIBBERD, the English walker and champion at twenty-six and seventy-two hours, offers to accept odds of $250 to $125 and match himself to beat the record for one, two and three hours, and to cover twenty-eight miles in four hours, to walk in two months from signing articles.

THEATRICAL RECORD.

Continued from page 701.

MARYLAND.

Baltimore.—A small audience was present at the Academy of Music Dec. 24, when Henry Irving opened his engagement in "Louis XI." The applause was frequent and hearty. "The Bells," "The Merchant of Venice," "Hamlet," "Charles the First" and "The Belle's Stratagem" will be given during the week. Mrs. Langtry closed to moderate business 22. Next week, Aldrich and Parsloe in "My Partner."

FORD'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Charles Wyndham's company appeared in "The Great Divorce Case" and "Ruth's Romance" 24 to a fair house. George S. Knight did a very light business last week, closing 22. Barry and Fay are billed for 31.

THE HOLLIDAY-STREET THEATRE.—J. K. Emmet opened to the usual full house 24 in "Fritz Among the Bohemians." "In the Ranks" closed 22, having drawn well. Dec. 31, Joseph Jefferson.

KERNAN'S MONUMENTAL THEATRE.—A "Jesse James" Combination holds the boards this week. Leavitt's Double Company closed 22. New-Year's week, Leavitt's All-star Combination.

KELLY'S FRONT-STREET THEATRE.—N. S. Wood in "Jack Harkaway" and an olio, introducing Frank Evans, Gibson and Binney and Ed. Foreman and Ida Meredith, were the attractions 24. Departures 22: J. J. Coleman, Tessie Deagle, Pickert and Vincent, John and James Russell, Manning and Drew and Carrie Brower.

ODEON THEATRE.—The openings 24 were Marren and Morton, Louise Garland, Annie Franklin, Minnie Walton, Dilks and Gray and Frank Bell. Ruby Lonsdale, Moore and Vivian, Barker and Leslie, Kitty Sheppard, the Hermans, Frank Livingston and Mlle. La Rosa closed 22. Billy Moore and Belle Vivian were too ill to appear the latter part of the week.

HERZOG'S DIME MUSEUM.—Zoe Zobedia, elastic-haired lady; Master Frankie, infant Esau; Frank Williams, the Ohio boy-giant; and Mlle. Inez, human phenomenon, were the curiosities arriving 24. Downstairs, Martinetti's Pantomime Troupe appeared in "Humpty-Dumpty."

MASONIC TEMPLE.—An "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Company, organized for the holidays, opened 24.

VIRGINIA.

Richmond.—Leavitt's Gigantean Minstrels opened a two nights' engagement Dec. 24 at the Richmond Theatre. Nothing booked for 26. Langtry opens 27, and will fill out remainder of the week. Her advance-sales are the largest this season. Similar news comes from Lynchburg and Staunton, where she plays 24, 25. A Madison-square Theatre "Bajah" Co. played to large audiences 17, 18. "The Black Dwarf" Co. to fair business 19, 20, and T. W. Keene finished up the week to well-filled benches.

MOZART HALL.—Matthew Arnold lectured before a large audience Dec. 18. The Wednesday Club of Baltimore gave the comedy of "Our Boys" 22, and the Retreat for the Sick will add a good sum to its treasury thereby.

THEATRE COMIQUE.—Birdie Kent and Madeline Ricord were to have opened Dec. 24. Anna Franklin and Flora Fleming closed 22. Business very satisfactory last week.

NEW JERSEY.

Newark.—At the Park Theatre Kate Claxton played a fairly successful engagement Dec. 20, 21, 22. The Christmas-attraction was Helen Bancroft in "The Hunchback." Booked: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Knight 28, 29, Mrs. Langtry 31, M. Ludoski Young in "East Lynne" Jan. 1.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—"The Stranglers of Paris" Company opened Dec. 24 for three nights to only a fair audience. Booked: Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels 27, 28, Tony Denier's Pantomime Company 29, Katharine Rogers in "Led Astray" Jan. 1.

OPERA-HOUSE.—Dec. 24 the following company opened to a very large house: The Paynes, Morello Brothers, the Electric Quartet, Lizzie Daly, the Four Shamrocks, the Four Planets, St. Felix Sisters, Frank Titus and Fanny Knight. The Holdworths' Specialty Company is booked for week of 31.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Mme. Marie Geistinger appeared as Boccaccio Dec. 23 to a very large audience. Hen Lube shared the houses with her.

A NEW HALL is to be dedicated in Clinton Jan. 1 by Mme. Fry's Concert Troupe of Boston.

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford.—At Roberts' Opera-house the Madison-square Co. in "Hazel Kirke" 19, and Rice's Surprise Party in "Pop" 21 had to succumb to bad weather. "Jalma" 22, by the Tompkins & Hill Co., was put on the stage in excellent form, and they were rewarded by good attendance. Booked: Lawrence Barrett 25, Haverly's Mastodons 26, Maude Granger 28, 29, "Bunch of Keys" Co. Jan. 1.

AMERICAN THEATRE.—The Gray & Stephens Dramatic Co. opened 24, for one week. Closures 22: Duncan, Lew De Witt, Ed. Kirwin, Wally De Forrest, Nellie St. John, Connors and Kelly and Frank Evans.

CAPITOL THEATRE.—Christmas-week introduced Guyer and Mackie, J. Arthur Doty, Harry and Lizzie Raymond, Mlle. Annie Austin, Marion, Billy Diamond, Lizzie Shelton and Prof. Austin. Departures 22: Daisy Daly, Edwards and Morton, Mealy and Hague, John F. Fenton, Charles French and Alice Clark.

ARKANSAS.

AT THE GRAND OPERA-HOUSE, Little Rock, Haverly's Comedy Company played Dec. 24. Ford's Comic-opera Co. is to appear 26. Nothing more booked for this week. Minnie Maddern was unable to appear 18, owing to railroad misconnections, but presented "The Puritan Maid" to a large audience 19..... The doors of the Capital Theatre were not opened at all last week, and nothing is booked for this week.

GEORGIA.

IN THE MASONIC THEATRE, Augusta, James A. Herne's "Hearts of Oak" Co. played Dec. 19 before one of the smallest audiences of the season. Haverly's "Silver King" Co., with J. H. Mack manager and Frank C. Bangs in the leading role, appeared before a large audience 21. It was repeated matinee and night 22.

TENNESSEE.

IN MEMPHIS, Modjeska and Ford's Opera Co. equally divide Christmas-week at Leubrie's Theatre. The Hanlons filled a fair engagement, and Charlotte Thompson played to light attendance Dec. 20, 21.

IN NASHVILLE, at the Masonic Theatre, the Emma Abbott Opera Company performed "Rigoletto" on Dec. 19 to a large and appreciative audience. Modjeska 20, 21, 22, played to full houses. Rose Eytinge opened 24 for three nights, Herne's "Hearts of Oak" is due Co. 27.

PROFESSIONALS' BUREAU.

Wants of Managers and Performers, Press Notices, Vacant Dates, Etc.

Advertisers will please observe that the inside pages of THE CLIPPER *will be put to press on Wednesday, instead of Tuesday, next week, and the paper will be issued on Thursday morning, for the reason stated in an editorial.*

DRAMATIC.

The Woodward Opera-house, Mount Vernon, O., will be opened Jan. 9, 1884. The house has been reconstructed and refitted. It now seats 900 people, and is announced as having folding opera-chairs, new scenery, etc. L. G. Hunt is the manager. There are open dates at this house.

The Bush-street Theatre, San Francisco, Cal., can be secured for unfilled dates by attractive entertainments.

Joseph J. Dowling and Sadie Hassen publish a notice stating that they will not star the coming season in "Burr Oaks," but are filling time to appear in their successful drama of "Nobody's Claim."

Goodale's Hall, Bevier, Mo., can be secured on percentage.

An old-man, heavy-man and an old-woman are wanted for Geo. Kendall's Dramatic Company.

A useful actor, advance-agent, etc., wants an engagement.

Music Hall, New London, Ct., is open for rental. It seats 1,000 people. James A. Wilkinson is the proprietor.

"Able and Willing" wants an engagement with a dramatic company.

MUSICAL.

Amateur musicians who can read music and sing are wanted by Armington.

Readers of THE CLIPPER who are interested in the banjo and banjo-music are referred to S. S. Stewart's advertisement.

Ben Becker has a sideahow brass band ready for the coming season.

M. Hobbe announces that he has a band of eight pieces ready for the circus season.

"Old-fashioned Homestead" is the title of a new song by Bland. It is published by Ditson & Co.

A double-bass and tuba player is wanted for Abbey's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Company

W. I. Peters, importer and dealer in musical instruments, etc., advertises that he makes a specialty of Italian strings, and that he has several special articles for sale that are worth a musician's attention.

A few performers for a ladies' orchestra are wanted as announced by "Orchestra."

VARIETY.

Specialty-artists are wanted for Jan. 14 and 21, 1884, at Hyde & Behman's Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Merritt and Waring, burlesque sketch-artists, introduce in their act songs, dialect business, negro reel-dancing and other features that have made their performances attractive ones at a number of the prominent theatres. They are at the Grand Central Theatre, Philadelphia, this week.

The Bendens—Fred E. and Helene M.—musical-artists, now with Beedle & Prindle's "Pleasure Party," will be at liberty April 1.

Tin-pan Fields has a strong feature in his clever specialty with tin-pans. He is this week at the Howard Athenæum, Boston, Mass., and will open at the Theatre Comique, Providence, R. I., Dec. 31.

J. E. Masters, facial-artist, character delineator and musical performer, announces that he has ten taking specialties.

Masters' Euterpeans closed Dec. 1 after a season of eighteen months. They claim that they did not get rich, but just bordering on it. They are now at Kohl & Middleton's Museum, Chicago.

The Whitney Bros.—Jimmy and Charley—Irish vocalists and dancers, would like to engage with a circus company for the season of 1884.

Specialty-artists and musicians are wanted for a minstrel company now performing in the West. Further particulars are given in "Manager's" card elsewhere.

Bert Kimball, ventriloquist, is in the field.

The Fenton Children—Baby and little Gay—were each presented with a handsome gold medal while performing in Butte, Montana.

Specialty people are wanted by B. M. Frane & Co. for a season from Jan 14, 1884.

Mitchell Ladish, programmer, ticket-seller, etc., wants a position.

Cort and Murphy, Ethiopian comedians, caution a certain performer against singing their song of "Furnished Rooms."

Victor, English clown, and Emma Alfredo will give their double bar performances, which are said to be very skillful and sensational, at Toby Pastor's Theatre next week. Miss Alfredo claims to do feats never accomplished before by any female performer.

John and Jeffreys-Pendy in their "Masher King and Queen" specialty are the attraction this, their third, week at the Crystal Palace Theatre, St. Louis, Mo.

The Hollywood Children are now appearing in Mrs. Fanny Hollywood's adaptation of the musical comedy of "Cinderella," in which new and handsome costumes are introduced. In speaking of these young artists in the above piece, Hagar, Campbell & Co. of the Philadelphia Dime Museum, at whose establishment it was performed last week, say: "They are the cleverest team of juvenile protean artists on the stage today." Mrs. Hollywood would like to arrange dates for the children with managers of first-class variety theatres and museums.

Senator Frank Bell's stump-speech on the tariff question was one of the hits of Washington amusements last week. This artist opened in Baltimore 24, and is to fill an engagement in New York 31. His date for Jan. 7 is open.

Information is wanted of Joseph Flynn, as per card.

Simon Cahn advertises for serio-comic and song-and-dance ladies.

Wally West, grotesque character-comedian, is under engagement to travel for two seasons with Geo. France's Dramatic Company. His impersonation of Nat Adams in the drama "A Block Game" secured him the long contract.

W. B. Knapp's dramatic and variety agency is effecting engagements for a number of attractive people and combinations, including The Kernells, Wheatley & Traynor's Show; the "Two Johns" Comedy Company; Vaughn, the bird imitator, sleight-of-hand performer, etc.; Torretti, equilibrist; La Petite Kittie, a diminutive song-and-dance performer; John C. Leach, character-dialect actor; Nellie St. John, operatic vocalist; Wayne and Wilson, grotesque black-face performers; J. B. Wills and May Adams in their specialties; and Revillo, magician. A card elsewhere gives particulars. Mr. Knapp is also agent for the Windsor Theatre and Boylston Museum, Boston.

Master Barney is reported as being quite ill at his residence, 269 Adams street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Silbons state that their act was an attractive feature in both Baltimore and Philadelphia recently, and that Managers Kernan, Gilmore and Denier can vouch for the effectiveness of their specialties. They have a few dates open.

First-class ladies are wanted for Dec. 31 at the Grand Central Theatre, Troy, N. Y. P. Curley is the proprietor and Frank McClane stage-manager of this house.

A partner is wanted by John Van Brunt to introduce Cassidy's Pyro-Pedal, a novel specialty.

Specialty people are wanted for Jan. 7, 1884, by B. H. Demarest.

MINSTRELS.

The war of the minstrels raged fiercely in Cleveland, O., last week, Thatcher, Primrose & West and Barlow, Wilson & Co. having arrayed their forces against each other, and both sides claim the victory. Thatcher, Primrose & West say: "With victory perched upon our banners, we sigh for other worlds to conquer," and Barlow, Wilson & Co. exclaim: "We have met the enemy, and they are ours!" The battle of Culloden pales into insignificance when compared to this glorious achievement, and the glories of Austerlitz fade away. T., P. & W., already intrenched for a week, held the fort to the end, and B., W. & Co. extended their engagement from three to six nights. H. J. Clapham writes us that he now knows that he has the best minstrel company in America, and the gentlemen managed by his brother say they are willing to wager $10,000 that their show is top of the heap. As THE CLIPPER may be called upon to decide this bet, an opinion would be premature at the present time, so we must refer our readers to the advertisements for full particulars, and our Cleveland correspondent will no doubt give us a continuation of the story.

Billy Conway, comedian, endman and dancer, can be engaged. He was with Baird's Minstrels for five seasons.

CIRCUSES.

Barnum, Bailey & Hutchinson publish a card, which may be found on another page of this paper, notifying lot-owners, city officials, billposters and other parties concerned that the Barnum and London Shows will during the coming season visit every city in the Eastern, Middle and Western States which has a population large enough to give them back the daily expenses, and cautioning them not to place any reliance on false rumors to the contrary. The proprietors of "The Greatest Show on Earth" also state that they have this Winter added features which cost over $400,000.

Sig. Dawn, knockabout and pantomime clown, is engaged to travel with Anderson & Co.'s Show next season.

Tony Steck, clown, is ready to go into the arena.

R. G. Ball gives notice that he is under engagement to Barnum, Bailey & Hutchinson, and he requests that communications be addressed to him at their office in this city.

Circus, museum and menagerie people are wanted for Frank A. Robbins' Show. Mr. Robbins wants to purchase an advertising-car. He has a number of wagons for sale.

The Orrin Brothers' Circus in the city of Mexico offers engagements to circus specialties and to any novelty that can be done in a circus-ring. Particulars are given in their card elsewhere.

The Karl Brothers and E. Baldwin, acrobats, leapers and tumblers, can be engaged for the next tenting season. They will return from Havana, Cuba, Feb. 4, 1884, and will perform in this city 11.

M. R. Kunkely, manufacturer of canvases, who has a patent on the lap-lacing tent, gives his address in our business department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A valuable privilege with Buffalo Bill's "Wild West" the coming Summer is offered for sale.

D. M. Mabie, billposter and advertiser, Moline, Ill., advertises in another column.

The owners of the panoramas of "Paradise Lost" and "The Apocalypse" are requested to communicate with M. F. Bachelder, who advertises a reward for their addresses.

H. R. Jacobs, proprietor and manager of the Royal Museum Novelty Company, now traveling, and J. B. Sparrow, manager of the Theatre Royal, Montreal, Canada, have entered into partnership. The Theatre Royal will be known as the Theatre Royal Dime Museum, and will be open during the Winter season, and the Pavilion Theatorium in Summer as a first-class museum. The Theatre Royal Dime Museum is said to be the largest place of the kind in Canada. It seats 1,700 people. Performances will be given every afternoon and evening. Performers, including a band and first-class curiosities, are wanted for the opening date, Jan. 14, 1884.

Magic-lanterns, views, stereopticons, new and second-hand, are to be found in the stock for sale by Jakobi & Hart.

Show-printing, as it is done by the Great American Engraving and Printing Company, is the subject of a card in another column.

Charles Melvin has a complete magician's show, including apparatus, curtains, posters, etc., for sale.

The Will L. Smith's Bellringers and Commodore Foote and Sister are said to be meeting with considerable success through Ontario.

"Greenlander" and his performing seal are open for engagements.

A pair of trained pigeons, who perform several clever tricks, can be purchased of Willetts.

Bob Watt, song, sketch and dramatic writer, advertises in this issue.

Curiosities and specialty are wanted for Donaldson's Dime Museum, New Orleans, La.

Driver's Garden Hotel and Restaurant, Washington, D. C., is advertised for sale.

Cuponti, Hindoo juggler, announces that he has a very successful engagement during the past week at the Capitol Theatre, Washington, D. C.

A horse with eight feet is what E. C. Balizet announces as for sale or to rent.

Harry Weston, business-manager and agent, is open for an engagement.

A. J. Leavitt, wig-maker, has a card in this issue.

A curiosity in the shape of a three-legged calf is offered for sale by G. G. Gibson.

THE WORLD OF AMUSEMENTS.

Brief Notes of Show-life Everywhere.

— Pauline Markham is to emerge from retirement to play Louise in "The Two Orphans" in New Haven, Ct., to-day (Christmas).

— Clarence Leonard is back from England to spend the holidays.

— Behind the scenes—Mrs. Santerre: "Sorry I can't stop to have a longer chat with you, Tottie; but you know Santerre plays Romeo to-night. I've been running about all day for him, buying new pads for his legs, having his false front teeth seen to at Schruncher's; and unless I get back at once with this packet of jujubes to—well, to soften his sweet voice—he might use naughty words—and beat me."—*Fun.*

— At a farewell supper given to Madame Judic, in Pesth, she made a little speech in the Hungarian tongue, limited to the word "Koeszoerisemszievmboel," or "thanks with all my heart." After she had got through the pronunciation, three friends lent her their smelling-bottles.

— Miss Amy Lee has been ill of blood-poisoning.

— Stuart Robson has written a letter to Harry Miner complimenting him for his zeal in behalf of the Actors' Fund.

— H. E. Wheeler was recently presented with a seven-stone diamond pin by Mr. Gardner, proprietor, and Joseph Frank, manager, of "Only a Farmer's Daughter" Co."

— Aida Lawrence was granted a divorce from Louis C. Meredith in the Superior Court in Chicago, Ill., Dec. 8.

— Agnes Herndon joins the Madison-square Theatre population, and Loudan McCormack has withdrawn therefrom.

— Minnie Hauk is back from her first concert tour through South and West. She will spend her holidays in New York, and then resume her tour, visiting all the principal Western and Southern cities, including New Orleans and San Francisco.

— The St. Botolph Club of Boston has made Manager Henry E. Abbey one of its members.

— A theatre at Niagara Falls, to be kept open all Summer, is one of the latest projected schemes.

— Louise Sylvester has had enough of "A Mountain Pink."

— N. F. Brisac has left the stage, and is to locate in Lima, Peru, as agent for an American insurance company.

— Mme. Lablache, operatic-singer, has been sued by her dressmaker, Mme. Soule of this city, for $225, the cost of a dress and a cloak. Due since March, 1882. She compromised in court Dec. 22 by giving an installment mortgage on her salary.

— George Morton, leading-man of Minnie Maddern's Co., is winning no little praise from the Southern press.

— Joseph Brooks sailed for England Dec. 19.

— Harry Choate's Comedy Company, playing in Illinois, is made up of himself, H. W. Blanchard (stage-manager), W. L. Talbott, Arnold Wilford, E. P. Johnson, F. H. Green, Miss Mattie Choate, Nellie Patterson and Blanche Davenport.

— One of our Portland, Me., correspondents wrote us on Dec. 22 that Mr. Barton, stage-manager for Lawrence Barrett, was then very sick there.

— Mrs. Eleanor Moore of Albany, N. Y., who in 1876 was attached to Chas. A. Watkins' Fifth-avenue Theatre Company, supporting Ada Gray, recently obtained a judgment for $136 against Mr. and Mrs. Watkins, having claimed $10 a week and expenses for a term of twenty weeks during the season in question, when, the company having disbanded at Elmira, Mrs. Moore was forced to pawn her trunk to get back to Albany.

— Samuel French of this city has secured the right to produce the drama of "Claudian" in the United States.

— Mary Anderson is preparing to play Lady Macbeth in London, Eng. Meanwhile she is well advertised as being betrothed to the Duke of Portland. Almost everybody has read the cable dispatch of Dec. 22 announcing the rumor of the betrothal, but only a few will remember the subsequent cabling denying its truth. At the same time it is denied that Miss Anderson contemplates marrying Manager Henry E. Abbey. Now let her be betrothed to Bartholdi's Statue, which will not make a denial.

— Maubury and Overton, the English actors who are now managers in this country, have acquired the right to produce Harvey's "Wages of Sin and Its Workmen" in America.

— It is rumored that J. A. Stevens and Frank Murtha have secured a lease of the Thalia Theatre, formerly the Old Bowery. This needs confirmation.

— George Fawcett Rowe has sold to Al. Hayman the exclusive right of playing "Pop" in the Australian colonies.

— A new opera-house, said to be the best in Maryland outside of Baltimore, has just been completed in Westminster.

— Lotta, the light-hearted and light-heeled, made her debut at the Opera Comique, London, Dec. 22; but, though she is said by some siblings to have been personally successful, the play "Musette" was a failure, the curtain falling amid a storm of hisses. A great part of this unpromising opening may possibly be attributed to the fact that Arthur Dacre, whose recent attempt to secure a divorce has made him very unpopular in London, played the part of the Baronet. It is, however, hoped that our little favorite may yet score a merited success in the parts of the Marchioness and Little Nell.

— Nella Brown, Boston reader, is in Chicago.

— Our San Francisco correspondent reports that in Melbourne, Australia, a man named Knowles has made confession that he killed F. M. Bates the actor, who was found dead on the highway about a year and a half ago.

— John Stetson and Mr. Nunnemacher, it is now positively asserted, have agreed to build a theatre in Chicago, and Mr. S. has an eye on the Walnut-street Theatre, Philadelphia, after the expiration of the present lease.

— John Fox of M. W. Hanley's "McSorley's Inflation" Co. fell through a trap at Cumberland, Md., Dec. 18 and was severely injured.

— Geo. C. Boniface may star for a few weeks, at the end of his regular season, in "Civilization," a play in which he will assume the part of the Indian. The late J. W. Wallack Jr. introduced this play to an American audience at Burton's Chambers-street Theatre, this city, in the Spring of 1853, he playing Hercule the Huron, the leading role, which James R. Anderson a few months later performed at the Broadway Theatre, when Fanny Morant, who during that engagement made her American debut, enacted Therese. It is founded on a romance by Voltaire, and was well received here thirty years ago.

MINSTREL, CIRCUS AND VARIETY GOSSIP.

T. J. SEARLES, comedian and sideshow solicitor, who closed with S. H. Barrett's Circus Dec. 1, is attending a course of medical lectures in Fort Wayne, Ind. He is to rejoin Barrett's Show in March next.

BOBBY, son of Harry L. and Jennie Leavitt, died in Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 11, aged five months.

MCCUE'S CIRCUS, which has gone to Mexico from San Francisco, includes his eight educated horses, Harry Tyler and dogs, the Turner Bros., Mons. Milo, Signor Billon, Leon and Willie Odell and a female "Blonde Quartet."

P. T. BARNUM says: "My agent has recently sailed for England to meet the sacred white elephant and his attendants from Siam. I have offered $25,000 premium for insurance of the life of the animal on $200,000 for one year, or half that premium for half that amount of insurance. As yet there are no takers. We shall have forty elephants the coming season. We have secured a marvelous dwarf elephant, twelve years old, which we call Tom Thumb. He is not half so large as our youngest baby elephant. He will play clown next season, and is taking daily lessons at my Winter-quarters."

CHARLES M. CONNOLLY is at work completing his new comic opera.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., is solicitous as to the whereabouts of Charles H. Williams, who has been manager of the Academy of Music there, and of who, it is said, probably without due authority, that he claims to be husband of Nellie Maskell.

"THE WIGWAM" is the title of the latest addition to the Bowery concert-halls. It is at 275, and Joe Burns is the proprietor.

W. C. HAWKINS, who does the "fresh" singing with Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels, is making a hit with his "Teresa" in the first-part.

FRANK RIVERS, who has recently returned to the show business, is now manager of the Alleghanians.

THE BIG FOUR have worked up their act little by little until it is now as good in ten minutes as a Ravel pantomime of thirty years ago was in half an hour.

WILLIAM WELCH, formerly of the song-and-dance team of Rice and Welch, and now manager of Callender's Minstrels, was quite ill at the Tifft House, Buffalo, N. Y., last week. His wife was telegraphed for Dec. 20, and was expected in a few hours.

HARRY KENNEDY the ventriloquist mourns his wife, who died a few days ago. She was not a professional.

BILLY WOOD of Haley and Wood was presented with a gold watch and chain in Wilkesbarre, Pa., recently.

P. T. BARNUM'S place as trustee of the Actors' Fund has been taken by Manager Samuel Colville of this city.

MRS. MAY MOULTON, the wife of Harry T. Moulton, gymnast, now of "Dan Rice's Pleasure Party," died in Quincy, Fla., Dec. 2, of typhoid-fever, and was buried there Dec. 3. She was a native of Zanesville, O., and eighteen years old.

HUGHEY DOUGHERTY was billed last week both with Haverly's San Francisco Minstrel Hall and with Heverly's Mastodons at the People's Theatre, this city. He did not appear at the People's on the night that we looked in; but Luke Schoolcraft was able to do duty for himself and Dougherty at one time, besides using middle-man and both ends in the first-part. He had the stage pretty much to himself.

OUR DETROIT correspondence shows how the Panhandle Railroad settled with Miles Orton for smashing up his circus.

WALLACE AND ANDERSON are to start out a wagon-show next Spring from Peru, Ind., with remnants of a disrupted circus.

IT IS a fact that J. H. Haverly is now sole proprietor of the San Francisco Minstrels, Billy Birch having disposed of his interest.

MASTER BARNEY is ill in Brooklyn, L. I.

SAM WILLIAMS, the colored minstrel who was acquitted at Lyons on Friday of complicity in the murder of James Hall, came home on a train at 1 o'clock yesterday morning, says a dispatch from Auburn, N. Y., Dec. 23. "A crowd of 1,000 gathered at the station. When the train drew in, Jim Smith, a barber, led the colored hosts in singing 'Home Again.' The crowd, which had been standing in the covered inclosure to keep out of the cold, rushed through the waiting-room. They forgot all about a big, redhot barred stove, and ran into it. It was tipped over, and set the floor on fire. The Fire Department was called out. Ike Mink, a corpulent, influential colored citizen who keep fires going and turns the crank of the ice-cream freezer at the Osborne House, conducted Sam in triumph to a barriage, and assisted him in shaking hands the remainder of the night at the Williams Cottage. Sam left his famous banjo at the jail in Lyons."

OUR CLEVELAND, O., advices in another column give W. H. West's reasons why he expects early next month to secure a divorce from Fay Templeton. Minstrelsy and light opera are not compatible.

BARNUM, BAILEY & HUTCHINSON have received a letter from Mr. Gaylord, their agent in Mandalay, confirming the recent news of the purchase of a sacred white elephant from King Thebau. The animal is said to be nine feet six inches in height.

CHARLES STRAFFIN, assistant agent of W. P. Spaulding's Bellringers, has had his services as such dispensed with. Fred M. Billings is in his place.

ALFRED LELAND, better known as Alfred Turnour, husband of Mme. Turnour of circus fame, recently fell from a scuttle in the roof of his home, 161 East Twenty-third street, and down a flight of stairs, breaking his neck in the fall.

COSTENTENUS, the Greek tattoed man, on Dec. 22, in this city, took out his papers as an American citizen. He is going to Europe to have his eyes treated by a distinguished oculist.

E. BALDWIN and the Karl Brothers, acrobats, are to leave Cuba for here Feb. 4, 1884.

THOMAS O'BRIEN of Relly and O'Brien was recently the recipient of a solitaire diamond stud presented by his wife, and in return he gave her a nine-stone diamond ring. "All in the family."

BLANCHE ROSELLA, a favorite serio-comic in days gone by, is married out of the profession, and living in retirement in Philadelphia.

NATHANS & CO.'S CIRCUS was sold by the Sheriff at Garnett, Kas., Dec. 18. The following show people were present: John F. and G. N. Robinson of Cincinnati, Frank Robbins of New York, W. H. Harris of Chicago, James Anderson of Peru, Ind., and Lew Sells of Columbus. The property was sold very low, and was about equally divided among the above persons.

MORRIS LEAVITT, treasurer of M. B. Leavitt's Gigantean Minstrels, was presented with a gold watch and chain Dec. 20 by the members of that troupe.

CANFIELD AND BOOKER, who have left the variety stage and have for some time been with Edouin's Sparks, are doing well in "A Bunch of Keys." Canfield as Grimes is particularly well placed.

THATCHER, PRIMROSE & WEST'S MINSTRELS are underlined at the People's Theatre, this city.

PROF. E. C. TAYLOR, illusionist, has altered his dates so as to take a four days' vacation this week, and to enable him and his wife to eat their Christmas-turkey with friends in Patterson, N. J., and to visit relatives in New Brunswick and Asbury Park. He closed in Greenfield, Mass., Dec. 24, and will recommence his tour in Orange, Mass., 29, going to Leominster Jan. 3 and Athol 8.

NEW ORLEANS reports five dollars a week as the highest salary paid any member of a Japanese troupe that has been performing there.

P. T. BARNUM Dec. 22 executed a codicil to his will. To meet a possible future claim of insanity directed against his will he called in his family physician and two other well-known Bridgeport doctors, one a homœopathist and the other an allopathist, all of whom witnessed his signature and made oath that they believed the testator to be of sound and disposing mind and memory.—*Hartford Courant.*

BILLY BIRCH is not exactly certain that he contemplates putting a minstrel company on the road.

FRANK COLLINS has withdrawn from Thatcher, Primrose & West's Minstrels to come to this city for medical treatment.

BILLY CONWAY, formerly with Baird's Minstrels, is spending the holidays with his friends in Hartford, Ct.

CHAS. W. FISH was successful with his circus in Milwaukee.

OUR PITTSBURG, PA., correspondent sends word that during the holidays Baird's Minstrels are playing in the small towns in that vicinity.

NEWLY ORGANIZED COMPANIES.

JOHN STETSON'S "CONFUSION" COMPANY, No. 2, which opened a New England tour Dec. 24 at Concord, N. H., comprise Harry Brown, Frank M. Norcross (Burbeck), Fred Ross, N. D. Jones, Murry Woods, Annie Russell, Georgia Tyler, May Sylvie, Lizzie McCall, Pope Cooke, Lillie West and C. F. Lang. F. Joyce will manage the tour.

CLIPPER POST-OFFICE.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 695.

Letters received up to 1 P. M., Tuesday, Dec. 25.

LADIES' LIST.

Austin, Mrs. R. G.
Alfredo, Emma
Bindley, Baby
Clifton, Ray
Christene, Millie
Campbell, Florence
Dale, Madeline 14c.
Foster, Maria P.
Florenee, Mrs. H. A.
Gillman, Adah H.
LaMause, Emma
Lucille, Fannie
Price, Bijou L.
Renner, Malvina
Russell, Tillie
Silbon, Mrs. C.
Shellman Sisters
Stevens, Mrs. W. O. Dale
Swain, Carrie
Stickney, Sallie
Silbon, Kate (2)
Vernon, May
Weston, Flora (vocalist)
Woods, Mrs. J. M. (2)
Wilkins, Fannie
Young, Mrs. S. H.

GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Arnold, Billy (manager)
Allen, Mr. & Mrs. Joe (2)
Ben-Said, Abdallah
Browne, E. B. (manager)
Booker, George A.
Baker & Maurice
Bane, J. C.
Biddle, Prof. Geo.
Bartlett, Arthur H.
Bruce, — (side-show)
Burton & Burke
Burton, John
Bradford Brothers
Burton, Clarence (banjoist)
Burger, Chris 6c.
Cunningham & Curren (2)
Combs, George Pool
Crandall & Eastwood
Cooke, Ernest (of Cole's Circus) (2)
Cooper & Jackson
Cooke, Fred (equestrian)
Corvella & Courtney
Crossley, John T.
Cook, DeWitt
Callan, James
Crandall, Harry
Collins, B. (of Hawkins & Collins)
Clifton, Frank R.
Cooper, H. (giant)
Caldwell, Joseph
Downing, W. W.
Decker, A. W.
Dockstader, Charles
Davis, Fred E.
Diamond, Matt
Dalbert, M. S.
Davies, E. D.
Doil, E. (billposter)
Davene, W. M. (manager) (2)
Dorian, Alfred (2)
Doris, John B. (2)
Dowlin g. J. J.
Dunham, J.
Eastwood, Charles
Foy, Patrick C.
Feggetter, Professor
Fullford, Charles E.
Fox, Eddie
Fagan, Barney
Gibbons, Phil
Gibson & Jerome
Gregory, Arthur W.
Grant, T. F. (2)
Glass, Gus I.
Geyer & Mackie
Howorth, John (manager)
Hillyer, Clark
Hennessey, Frank
Hume, Dick
Hart, John (comedian)
Hugo, W. H.
Hopper, Garry
Houghton, William
Hawkins, Walter C.
Haley, Maurice
Jackley, N. H.
Kelly, Thomas M.
Keys, Lew
Leo. ard, J. F.
Lee, John H. (banjoist)
Lamont, A.
LaRose Harry
Lee, J. (of Lee & Ryan)
Lorbeys, The
Mason, Al
Mack & Colter
Melville, H. (of Dublin) (2)
Majilton, Frank
Mack, Billy
McDowell, J. G.
Merlin, Dr. A.
Mackley, A. J.
McBrayne, Walter
Miles, Edward B.
McCarthy, Charles
McDonald, Charles
Noyes, Charles W.
Onofri, Charles
Paddock, J. A. (manager)
Pulver, Crete
Palmer, — (snake-charmer)
Pholte, Charles E.
Powers, Jen
Payne, Billy & Alice
Pearl, C. C.
Robbins, Frank A. (3)
Ricketts, G. (pantomimist) (2)
Roach & Castleton
Rickett Brothers
Ronn, Charles
Retis & Coleman
Ronaldo, Harry
St. Clair Brothers
Shamrocks, Four
Strebig, I. V.
Shortis, P. (of Baird's Minst.)
Sheffer & Blakely
Shedman, Winfield S.
Skuse, W. (leader)
Silbon, C. (2)
Shields, George W
Seiton, Harry (2)
Spitz, A. A.
Spotten, Gerald
Titus, Frank
Thorne, T. C.
Taylor, Prof. E. C. (2)
Thompson, Joe & Sadie
Toner & Frobel
Washburne, L. W.
Welden, G. F.
Williams, F. W.
Winstanley Brothers
Wainratta, Walter J. (3)
Wilcox, Henry A.
Whitney, John F.
Wayne & Wilson
Wallick, James H.
Ward, Eugene
Wood, William B.
Williams, William
Weeks, George R.
Williams, T. W.
Wilton, Joe
Young, William H.
Zenoni, Frank (3)
Zalto, D. M.

ELK NOTES.

NEW YORK LODGE, No. 1, held their regular communication on Sunday, Dec. 23, all the officers and a number of the brethren being present, when an important proposition was brought forward, viz., to start an Elks' club. All B. E.'s in good standing are to be entitled to membership. A fuller explanation will be given at the next meeting. The grand social session to have taken place next Sunday evening has been postponed until Jan. 6. An invitation is extended from Brooklyn Lodge to the fraternity to join in a social reunion Sunday evening, Dec. 30, on the occasion of their receiving their charter. The ball of New York Lodge, which is to take place at Madison-square Garden on Thursday, Feb. 14, it is expected, will be one of the finest affairs of the kind ever given by the Order.

A REGULAR meeting of Pittsburg, Pa., Lodge, No. 11, was held evening of 23, after which a social session was held. A majority of the professional people in the city were in attendance, as also were numerous invited guests.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION.

JOSEPH GUNG'L NOT DEAD.—Foreign journals erroneously announced the death of Joseph Gung'l in Hungary in November. It was Johann Gung'l, nephew of Joseph, who had died. He was born in Zoambek, Hungary, in 1819, and wrote a large number of dance-pieces. In 1823 he formed a dance-orchestra at Berlin, and two years afterwards he went to St. Petersburg, where he lived several years. About twenty years ago Johann Gung'l retired, and went to reside in Hungary, where he died.

GUSTAV HOLZEL, who died recently, was for more than twenty years the leading bass buffo at the Vienna Imperial Opera-house, He visited America thirteen years ago and gave several concerts, in which he sang his own compositions.

NELSON VARLEY died of hemorrhage of the lungs in Cardiff, Wales, Dec. 1, aged 39 years. For the past five years he had been a member of D'Oyly Carte's Opera Co.

MRS. EMMA RICHARDS, one of the ballet troupe who arrived in Havana, Cuba, last October to dance at the Torrecillas Theatre, and who refused to take advantage of a subscription started to pay her passage to New York, was attacked by yellow-fever Nov. 25, and was seemingly improving, when she suddenly became worse and died at four o'clock in the morning of 30. She was buried in the cemetery San Antonio Chiquito the same day. Her real name was Emma Strasburger, and she was a native of California.

DANIEL MCGLOIN was burned to death on a freight-car on Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway Dec. 16, near Wawaka, Ind. McGloin traveled with O'Brien's Show last season, and met with an accident in Philadelphia and was left at a hospital there for some time. It is believed that he has a brother in Syracuse, N. Y.

BASEBALL.

BOSTON BASEBALL GOSSIP.

BOSTON, Dec. 23.

The League managers in this city are inclined to poohpooh the idea of a Union club in Boston. There seems, after all, to be more than mere wind in the undertaking. Last week several prominent baseball men were in the city, in conference with the gentlemen who are interested in the new undertaking. Matters are discussed very quietly, and everything will be kept secret until arrangements are definitely made. There will be no endeavor to rush into newspaper notoriety, as the other Union clubs have done. George Wright, although not actively, is deeply interested in the success of the newcomer, and thinks it will be a good thing for baseball in Boston. George has been misquoted in saying that the new association would hurt baseball. What he did say was that too many clubs would hurt baseball. New York and Philadelphia have both supported two clubs, and Boston, which last year turned out in largest numbers in proportion to population, can support more than one. Besides, the effect of monopoly is not good, and the Boston Club has had matters its own way too long. The old organization will find that its business will increase rather than decrease with another club in the field. Everything, however, is in a cloudy state, and before another week has elapsed your correspondent may report more definitely.....The annual meeting of the Boston Baseball Association was held at its rooms, in Washington street, on Wednesday, Dec. 19, President A. H. Soden in the chair. Sixty-three shares of stock were represented; several amendments to the by-laws were proposed and adopted, the most important being one empowering the board of directors to dispose of stock upon certain conditions. An amendment was made that such stock be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, but this was voted down. Another amendment was that the report of the treasurer should be submitted thereafter to the directors instead of to the stockholders. A call was made for the report of the treasurer, but, as was attested by the certificate of a physician, that gentleman was sick. Much comment has been made upon the arbitrary action of the directors. Four gentlemen control the stock, and it is their desire to keep the financial condition secret. Hence the absence of the treasurer's report and the motion that the said report be submitted to the directors. *The Globe* of this city says that it was well known two weeks before the meeting that the report of the treasurer would not be read. The meeting was first called for 7.30 P. M., and then changed to 11 A. M., for the express purpose, as it was alleged, of fixing the time in a busy holiday week when interested stockholders could not be present. Legally, every stockholder has a right to know the exact condition of the corporation. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, A. W. Soden; secretary, F. F. Roundy; treasurer, A. J. Chase; directors, A. H. Soden, A. J. Chase, J. B. Billings, W. H. Conant, T. B. Mayo.....Curious to find how the action of the League and Association in regard to the pitchers was regarded by some of the players, your correspondent sought the veteran George Wright, and as usual received the warm greeting that is characteristic of him. George said that it would work the mischief not only with the batting but with the catchers. "Why," said he, "it will break them all up. No catcher can stand it. The batting should have been favored, but, instead of this, the League has actually restricted it, and the game will be more scientific than ever, which has come to mean little short of no chance to hit the ball and a large number of strikeouts." This is not baseball, and it seems to me George is right, and that he had in mind his halcyon days in the Boston Club, when Al. Spalding was there, and there was plenty or fine fielding and pretty three-basers—splendid batting—the days when there was such a thing as scientific batting, and a batsman could face for and place a hit. How prettily Andy Leonard and Al. Spalding would do it! But now! Well, silence is the best comment, for should one begin to draw comparisons a side of THE CLIPPER would be filled without affording satisfaction to writer or reader. George said that the American Association had done wisely in keeping the arm of the pitcher down, as the batting would be better than last year thereby. He thought the retention of the foul bound a great mistake, and it no longer was a part of true baseball, besides being against the batsman. George is doing a tremendous business and deserves his success, which impels me to repeat what Mr. Chadwick said of him in 1880: "It is rare, we regret to say, that one sees combined in the person of a professional baseball player the qualities of honesty, good nature and great fielding skill. But there is one player at least who possesses this happy union of great skill in every department of the game, in batting, fielding and base running, with thorough integrity of character and a fund of good-humor which renders him as pleasant a companion on the field as in the club-house or the home circle, and this player is George Wright, the model short-stop of the professional fraternity. A loving son to his aged parents, a devoted husband and a genial companion on the field, we but pay him a well-merited compliment in placing him first." George has a bright son, called Tommy Beals Wright, in compliment to George's friend, who was such a brilliant and promising player, at one time covering second base for the Bostons. George's store is on Washington street, the principal thoroughfare of Boston, near all the hotels and theatres, and is the first destination of baseballists passing through or arriving at Boston. Underneath Mr. Wright's store is a neat saloon, over the entrance of which the sign "Ormsby & Knight" greets the visitor. Passing downstairs we receive a friendly shake and greeting from our old and familiar friend "Lon Knight" of the Athletics. Lon is looking finely, has a successful establishment, and is always lighted up by a modest diamond stud, that he is not afraid to wear in front of as well as behind the bar. Lon does not like the admission of the four new clubs. "Too many," he said; "it is going to weaken us, and will hurt us." In regard to the rule concerning League pitchers, he said that he did not think it would make much difference in the batting. If the catchers can stand it the batsmen can. Pitchers won't be able to use the tremendous pace that is being talked of, for the catchers will give out and they will have to let up. But at the end of the season, said he, the American Association Clubs will not stand the ghost of a show with the League rules, for the pitching of the former will come very easy to the League players after facing the unrestricted fire of their own pitchers. Knight also characterized the retention of the foul-bound as unwise. .....Bignall of Taunton, who caught for the Andersons of Lynn last season, has signed to play with the Bay Citys of Michigan for 1884.....M. F. Keefe, another young Taunton player, has signed with the Harrisburg (Pa.) nine..... Holland of Fall River has signed with the Fort Waynes. .....McKinnon, late of the Philadelphias, was fairly deluged with offers for next season. Strange to say, he did not receive any from Lucas of St. Louis..... It is proposed to have a baseball nine in New Bedford next season, and the park will be put in first-class condition under the probable management of Andrew E. Hathaway and Thomas Thompson.....A meeting of amateurs was recently held at the Quincy House and the Tremont Baseball Association organized. Charles Rodleff was elected manager and E. H. Bradshaw secretary and treasurer. It was decided to make the club strictly amateur; to arrange, if possible, five games with the Beacons, and to hear from the leading nines in the State. The nine as now arranged will be: W. Ayer, c. and l. f.; F. E. Young, p.; O. W. Rodleff, 1st b.; C. Frederick, 2d b.; H. White, 3d b., c. and p.; F. H. Bradshaw, s. s.; A. Martin, l. f. and c; M. Wallace, c. f. and c.; F. Woodman, r. f. and p.; W. Woodman, 2d b. and 3d b. They propose to begin training Jan. 1.....Manager Bancroft on Wednesday of last week engaged M. J. Murray of South Boston for the Providences. Murray has played with the Actives of Reading, Pa., and the Manchester, N. H., Club, as catcher. He is said to be a fine thrower and a promising general player, and is nineteen years old. His weight is 170lb.....Superintendent Roberts of the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium of this city will soon make preparations for the accommodation of the unusually large number of baseball players who are in the city and vicinity. They will be afforded opportunities for practice in the morning, early afternoon and early evening.

THE LOOMING PROFESSIONAL WAR.
President Mills' Views of Matters and Things.

On Dec. 24 we called on the president of the League—the leading authority in regard to National-agreement matters—to ascertain his views in regard to the all-absorbing question of the action taken by the Union Association, and as to "what the League are going to do about it." Below is embodied the gist of the interview we had with Mr. Mills:

REPORTER.—What are your views of the existing state of affairs in professional baseball?

MR. MILLS.—I regard the outlook for establishing the professional exhibition of the game as a permanent institution as most encouraging. The three professional associations made a long stride in that direction during the past year by uniting in a common agreement, applying equally to every club member, having for its object the maintenance of the game on an honest and permanent basis, insuring the ostracism not only of dishonest players, but also of dishonest clubs, and guaranteeing to each club a fair opportunity to retain the players it develops, and to the players the certainty of receiving fair compensation and continuous employment.

R.—What do you say as to whether this scheme is comprehensive enough to take in every club?

Mr. M.—It, of course, is not intended to apply to amateur clubs, nor to semi-professional clubs which spring up from year to year without any aim at permanency; but it is intended to include all professional clubs banded into associations for self-government, and which have a fair prospect of sustaining themselves without jeopardizing the existence of clubs already established, and also clubs which comply with the National-agreement. Of course if a town can support but one club, the establishment of another there would be likely to prove disastrous to both; and since there is an immense field in this country for baseball enterprise in cities and towns not occupied by professional clubs, it is only fair to the established club to deny recognition to an experimental enterprise in the same town until such time, at least, as there may seem to be a fair prospect of supporting a second club there without detriment to its interests.

R.—You are, of course, aware that the new Union Association antagonizes the National-agreement plan, both by placing clubs in cities already occupied by your clubs and by hiring your reserved players where they can get them. What effect do you think that enterprise will have?

Mr. M.—If it could succeed it would doubtless have a most demoralizing effect; but I have no apprehension that any such scheme will prove a success. Very likely some of its projectors have large means, but something besides money is essential to the success of an enterprise of the kind. The leading club in the American Alliance disbanded in the middle of last season because its owner, a very wealthy man, found it was not a paying enterprise. No capitalist sustains a business venture when the fact that it will not pay is definitely demonstrated. So far as their tempting away from us reserved players by offers of fancy salaries is concerned, the League can well afford to lose a few players for the sake of having the wisdom of the reserve-rule vindicated. Your paper has given the reserved players a warning of their danger, and it may be a good thing for the great mass of the players if the warning be unheeded by a few. Of course, the associations which are now or may hereafter become members of the National-agreement will forever debar them from playing in or against their clubs. If the Union Association should not outlast the coming season, these men would probably adopt some occupation which would pay them less than $3,000 a year. But suppose the backers of the Union clubs should conclude to go through 1884, at whatever cost, in the hope of doing better in 1885, what pay would these $3,000 deserters receive for their services in 1885? Suppose the Union Association should say to these men: "We will pay you $500 for your services in 1885, or you may quit ball-playing," would they not have to accept that princely salary in 1885 or finally quit ball-playing as a profession?

R.—That contingency is quite apparent, of course; but Mr. Warren White, secretary of the Union Association, says that the members of the League cannot point to one act on the part of the Union Association that is not fair and manly. What say you to that?

Mr. M.—Without discussing the "fairness" of attempting to place clubs in cities in opposition to the interests and wishes of clubs already established there, look at what they have done in their attempts to secure League players! Every League club I have heard from on the subject reports that most of its players have been approached, either while under contract or reserve, by emissaries of this Union Association, with temping offers to induce them to play next year in Union clubs. Take the case of Corcoran, one of the reserved players of the Chicago Club. On the morning of Dec. 7 he showed me a telegram from Henderson, a Baltimorean, who, it appears, is seeking to place a Union club in Chicago, in substance as follows: "Will pay you three thousand for next season; seven hundred advance. Answer quick." Corcoran did "answer quick," for we have his written statement that he replied on that day that he would not sign with him, as he had decided to go back to the Chicago Club. At the same time he notified the Chicago Club (whose proposition he had fully considered) of such decision; also "Lucas of St. Louis," whom it appears he had also been dickering with. Notwithstanding this definite notice Henderson made a journey to Newark the next day, and induced Corcoran to break his word, employing as an argument "one thousand down." The evidence of this final transaction I derive wholly from Corcoran's written statement. I presume there is no law that would enjail a man for such conduct, but it would require considerable hardihood to call it fair and manly.

NOTEWORTHY CONTESTS OF 1883.

EXTRA INNINGS.—The most attractive games are those which require more than the usual quota of nine innings, thus insuring an exciting finish. One hundred and eighty-two games requiring ten or more innings were played during the past season, and fourteen resulted in the score remaining tied. The most prolonged contest of the season was the one played Oct. 11 in South Orange, N. J., between nines of St. John's College and Seton Hall, the latter making the winning run in the last half of the fifteenth inning, the figures at the finish being 6 to 5. Fourteen innings were necessary to settle the question of superiority in each of ten games, four of these contests taking place in one week in July. The Allegheny and Metropolitan Clubs twice played fourteen-innings games together, each club winning on its own ground, another curious coincidence being the fact that the score was the same on each occasion—7 to 6. The next in order of interest of this class were the championship contests between the Cleveland and New York, Providence and Detroit, and Merritt and Anthracite Clubs, which ended with the respective scores of 4 to 3, 7 to 3 and 7 to 6. Seven games of thirteen innings each were played, the contest most deserving of mention being the one between the Metropolitan and St. Louis teams, June 21, in St. Louis, Mo. The home-team made their only run in the first inning, and for twelve succeeding innings were blanked. The Mets tied the score in the fourth inning, and got in the winning run in the thirteenth. The Detroits defeated the Buffalos by a score of 3 to 2, the Cincinnatis beat the Baltimores by 7 to 5, and the Quicksteps got away with the Anthracites by 10 to 5, in championship contests of this class. Twelve innings were required in each of eighteen games, two of which were drawn on account of darkness, with the score remaining a tie. In the championship contest between the Grand Rapids and Springfield Clubs June 16, the only and winning run was scored by the former team in the twelfth inning. The Bostons defeated the Baltimores April 17 by a score of 6 to 4, making the two winning runs in the twelfth inning after two men were out. The Metropolitan, Allegheny and Eclipse Clubs, each once defeated the Cincinnati team in twelve-inning championship contests. The Philadelphias, after being beaten by the Clevelands—7 to 0—reversed the result on the following day by making the winning run in the twelfth inning. In the game between the Grand Rapids and Indianapolis Clubs July 19, in Indianapolis, Ind., a home-run hit by Eden in the twelfth inning after two men were out gave the victory to the visitors. No fewer than fifty-eight games were played requiring eleven innings in each, including one between the Indianapolis and Springfield Clubs Aug. 23, when neither team was able to score a run. The Cincinnatis achieved a victory over the Athletics by a score of 10 to 9 on the afternoon of Decoration-day in Philadelphia, after meeting with a defeat by the Metropolitans by 1 to 0 on the morning of that day in this city. It took eleven innings for the Chicagos to beat the Philadelphias in the championship game played July 25 in Chicago, but they did it good and strong by making nine runs in the eleventh, and thereby coming off victorious by a score of 11 to 2. Somewhat similar batting feats marked the eleventh inning of the games played April 24 in Cambridge, Mass., and Grand Rapids, Mich., the Harvard College nine making seven runs and the Detroits four runs (after two men were out) against the J. L. Whiting and Grand Rapids respectively. In the championship contest between the Quincy and Saginaw Clubs July 9 in Quincy, Ill., a home-run hit helped the Quincys to four runs in the eleventh, and they won by a score of 8 to 4. The winning run in the game played June 16 between the Beacon and Brown University teams resulted also from a home-run hit. In eighty-eight games the contestants played ten innings each before the question of superiority was settled, and in fact in eleven of these games darkness intervened before this conclusion could be arrived at, the score remaining tied. The most remarkable of this class included the championship games between the Cincinnati and Columbus Clubs played July 21 and 27, when each team achieved a decisive victory by making six and five runs respectively in the tenth inning. All of the five runs scored in the game between the Port Huron and Bay City Clubs July 29 were made by the former team in the tenth inning. Another noticeable instance of hard hitting at the finish was afforded in the championship contest between the Quicksteps of Wilmington and Actives of Reading May 4, when the Quicksteps won by making ten runs in the ninth and tenth innings. Four remarkable contests, by a curious coincidence, took place in widely different parts of the country on July 12, two requiring fourteen innings each, one necessitating thirteen and the other eleven innings. Three games were played Aug. 3 in Philadelphia, Pa., Dayton, O., and Port Huron, Mich., requiring fourteen, thirteen and eleven innings respectively.

BLANK SCORES.—In over two hundred games during the past season one side failed to score a run, one hundred and twenty-eight being championship contests between professional clubs. The most remarkable of these contests took place Aug. 23 in Indianapolis, Ind., between Dan O'Leary's Indianapolis Club and the Springfield Club of the Northwestern League. Eleven innings were played, and not a run was made on either side. The game was then called in order to enable the Springfields to "catch a train." The Brooklyn-Active championship contest Sept. 27 was also played without a run being scored. The game was called at the end of the seventh inning on account of darkness. In twenty-five of these games the winner made but one run, an exceptional contest taking place between the Grand Rapids and Springfield Clubs June 16, when the solitary and winning run was scored by the former in the twelfth inning. The only run in the Yale-Harvard championship contest June 26 was scored in the ninth inning. The St. Louis, Cleveland and Grand Rapids twice, and the Metropolitan, Boston, Detroit, New York, Toledo, Bay City, Brooklyn and Quickstep Clubs once each were credited with this narrow margin of victory in championship contests. In the game between the Eclipse and Bay City Clubs April 25 the former scored the two winning runs on a home-run hit by Gerhardt. In striking contrast to the above-mentioned instances of small scoring was the game played May 30 in Grand Forks., Dak., the home-team then making 54 runs, while the visiting Larimore team was blanked. The Merritt Club of Camden, N. J., defeated the New York Alaskas April 14 by a score of 36 to 0. The St. Louis Club blanked strong professional clubs on three consecutive days in April, and the Toledo team blanked their opponents in championship games three times in four days. The Allegheny, Athletic, Baltimore, Bay City, Boston, New York and Springfield Clubs were each twice blanked on successive days. The games between the Cleveland and Chicago Clubs June 23 and 26, the Metropolitans and Columbus July 4 and 7, and the Clevelands and Detroits Aug. 11 and 14 were marked by the same scores, each club alternately blanking the other. The Metropolitans defeated the Rose Hill and Keystone Clubs April 3 and 4, the score on each occasion being 18 to 0, and the same score—10 to 0—was recorded in the championship games between teams of Bowdoin and Bates Colleges May 12 and June 7. The Detroits occupied a leading position Aug. 4, when the Philadelphias, the tail-end team of the League, unexpectedly were credited with a victory by the solid score of 6 to 0. The Detroits, however, were fortunate enough to defeat the Chicagos by 7 to 0 and 6 to 0, having whitewashed the League champions four times since 1880. The former victory so well pleased an enthusiastic admirer of the Detroit team that he sent a box to Captain Anson by express, which, on being opened, was found to contain a huge goose-egg with the inscription: "A Michigan goose-egg, laid by a Michigan goose and sent by a Michigander." The Chicagos got but one safe hit off the Detroit pitcher in the first game. In five games the losers were retired without making a run or a safe hit, the Providence treating the Cleveland in this manner July 25, while the Clevelands administered a similar decisive defeat to the Philadelphias Sept. 13. The game between the Johnstown and Youngstown Clubs Sept. 4 was remarkable for the fact that the former scored the only and winning run off but two safe hits, while the latter team failed to get in a run, although credited with three hits.

DRAWN GAMES.—The score remained a tie at the conclusion of thirty-five games last season, including two of 12 innings, two of 11 innings, eleven of 10 innings, thirteen of 9 innings, three each of 8 and 7 innings, and one of 5 innings. In twenty-nine of these games darkness intervened before the question of superiority could be settled. Four games were stopped by rain, one terminated on account of a dispute over a decision of the umpire, and another one was left unfinished by reason of the visiting club's desire to catch a train. The most prolonged contests of this class were those between the newsboys and bootblacks of Baltimore June 13 and the Nehannock and Youngstown Clubs July 4, each requiring twelve innings. The eleven-inning contest between the Indianapolis and Springfield teams, and the seven-inning game between the Brooklyns and Actives, in which no runs were scored, have been mentioned above. The Toledo team took part in games of eleven and ten innings with the Saginaw and Springfield Clubs respectively, each being marked by the same score, namely, 6 to 6. The Detroits and Buffalos played a tie-game Sept. 1, and the Grand Rapids team tied the Peorias and Fort Waynes Sept. 15 and 18 by the respective scores of 8 to 8 and 4 to 4, each after ten innings had been completed. The championship games between the New York and Cleveland Clubs Sept. 15 and 19 proved to be exceptional ones, the score being tied each time at the end of the ninth inning. In the first game each club made only one run, and in the other contest each scored two runs. The other noticeable drawn games were those between the Detroit and Cleveland Clubs Aug. 24, Metropolitan and Eclipse Sept. 4, Philadelphia and Detroit Sept. 22, Baltimore and Detroit Oct. 4, Metropolitan and New York Oct. 16, and Cincinnati and Cleveland Oct. 17, the last two contests being marked by the same score—3 to 3. In six of these drawn games the score stood tied at six runs, in five contests each made three runs, and in three games each of the contestants got in only one run.

NOVELTIES.—The tendency towards sensational or novel contests was greater last season than ever before. Philadelphia, if we may credit the reports from that city, had a mania for novelties in baseball, games having been announced there between Chinese nines, between colored male and female teams, between nines composed of cripples, the qualification for membership being a lost arm or leg, and between sides made up of sixteen young girls. A colored professional team of males, hailing from St. Louis and appropriately called the Black Sox, made a Western tour. John Lang, a Philadelphian, devised the brilliant idea of raising a Chinese team, secured ten players, uniformed them, drilled them into a passable knowledge of the game, and was about to exhibit them to a long-suffering public when there was a strike. Here the arrangement came to an end, and Lang left the Chinese players to their own devices. The Digger Indians played a game in California, and did themselves credit. A match between dude nines was talked of in Cincinnati. Philadelphia and Chester, Pa., enjoyed the distinction of possessing artistically-dressed nines of ladies of color. The Chester nine's uniforms consisted of red and white calico dresses of remarkable shortness and caps of corresponding colors. They were called the "Dolly Vardens." Six colored clubs claimed the championship of the country. These clubs were located respectively in Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Cleveland. An aggregation of female baseball-players, which started out from Philadelphia in August last, and played in nearly all the large cities, came to grief at last in St. Louis in the latter part of November, it being the fate which had all along seemed imminent. The teams were known as the "blondes" and "brunettes," and were attired in blue and red uniforms. The baselines were considerably shortened, and the baseballs used were made wholly of yarn. In this city and in Pittsburg the sixteen females contended against five of the Delaware and Allegheny Clubs. In Pittsburg the five men were still further handicapped by being forced to make all stops, catches and throws left-handed, and to use only one hand while at the bat. *The Pall Mall Gazette* of London, Eng., expressed this opinion about these players: "It is to be feared that 'at baseball' American ladies do not quite forget that the eyes of the male portion of spectators are upon them; and perhaps they are rightly mindful, even when at play, how—

> Things of no moment, color of the hair,
> Shape of a leg, complexion brown or fair,
> A dress well chosen, or a patch misplaced,
> Conciliate favor or create distaste.

In England such an accusation would be repelled with scorn; but in America they evidently make no secret of it," Miss Walker and eight other young ladies of Huntsboro, Ala., defeated a male nine there July 25 by a score of 20 to 11. The young women employed in a shoe factory in Philadelphia organized a club, and an amateur team in that city gloried in the appellation of the "Mrs. Jane Duffy Club," that lady being the manager and secretary. In Pottsville, Pa., they had a girl twelve years old who could "pitch a baseball with as much skill, dexterity and accuracy as the average amateur pitcher." Three comely young women who could "sting the first-baseman's hands from the home-plate, knock a ball beyond the diamond or throw it through a six-inch hole at a distance of 30 feet," tested the descriptive powers of gallant Scranton reporters. The thirst for players was so great in Philadelphia that they ransacked hospitals in order to make up nines. One set of cripples was called the Snorkey Club, in honor of the famous hero of the drama "Under the Gaslight." Four of the Snorkey team had an arm off at the shoulder, one had a paralyzed arm, and each of the rest of the nine was minus a hand. The nine chosen to antagonize the Snorkeys were called the "Hoppers," from the fact that they were one-legged men, or at least supposed to be. Their first-baseman had an artificial leg, the centre and right-fielders chased balls on crutches, and the others of the nine traveled on peg-legs. According to accounts the "Hoppers" had a veritable curiosity in George Dowd, of whom it was said that "his left leg is gone above the knee." It would be worth more than the price of admission to see George hobble around on his two feet and two knees, when the motive-power above the knee of one of them was altogether gone. He was the only one of the nine thus afflicted. All the others were either minus a foot and ankle or had lost a leg *below* the knee. These two teams contended in Philadelphia and Washington, each alternately winning. The one-legged men of Philadelphia and Trenton played three games for championship honors, the crippled Jerseymen coming off victorious each time. Games between nines of fat men and lean men, called for baseball purposes "The Jumbos" and "The Shadows," were played in different cities. In the game played Sept. 19 in Danville, Pa., business was suspended, the public schools were closed, and the court adjourned, while bench, bar and jury proceeded to the ball-ground to enjoy the fun. The furore for baseball reached such a height in a Western city that a mercantile firm sent the following manifesto to an establishment adjoining their place of business: "*Gentlemen:* It was creditably reported to us that some of your employes frequently use the roofs of the buildings, extending from yours to ours, to play baseball thereon. We are ever desirous to help to elevate the national game, and this altitude seems to be about as high as it ever will get, yet there are also a few objections to this special location of the game." The Our Boys and Newington Clubs of Baltimore played two games July 13, one of which was in the water and the other on shore. The former game was a novelty, and was attended with several ludicrous incidents. The first base and the right-fielder stood knee-deep in water, the batter and pitcher were up to their waists, while only the head and shoulders could be seen of the left-fielder. The bases were life-preservers anchored in the water. The frantic and generally unsuccessful efforts to reach the first base in time made the whole affair look very much like a game between two nines composed exclusively of cripples. The outfielders had the easiest time of all, and for the most part amused themselves swimming along the outskirts of the field. The second-baseman made himself useful by swimming to first base, where, with the first-baseman, he succeeded in putting most of the hands out. One or two very good double-plays were made. The loss of the third ball, just as one hand of the Our Boys was out in the beginning of the ninth inning, brought the game to a close, when the contestants dragged themselves to the shore, after swallowing enough salt water to preserve them for years. A party of young men of Somerville, Mass., took a rather novel way of celebrating the Fourth of July by engaging in a game of baseball, with a barrel of beer placed near the third base, to be served out to those only who succeeded in reaching that point. Some, finding every effort to reach the left corner bag unavailing, began to run the bases the other way, but this was promptly vetoed by the umpire. After the seventh inning it was found comparatively easy to reach third safely, for many of the players found it difficult to select the right ball out of five or six which they thought they saw coming towards them. The novel experiment of playing baseball by electric light took place June 2 in Fort Wayne, Ind., the Quincy Club then defeating a picked nine by a score of 19 to 11 in seven innings. The inclosure was lighted by seventeen lamps, which were suspended on masts. The game was only a partial success, as the outfielders had to play close to the infield, the centre of the grounds not being sufficiently illuminated. It was found necessary to change the ball often, as when it became dirty it could not be seen. Some trouble was experienced in catching high balls, but not the least difficulty was found at the bat. The game lasted two hours, some slight delay being caused by the lamps going out twice. Three games were played between the members of the Democratic Committees of Essex and Hudson Counties, New Jersey, to decide who should be the choice of both counties as candidate for Governor of the State. The Democratic and Republican members of the Pennsylvania Legislature organized nines and played championship games. A game was played Oct. 12 in Chillicothe, O., between sides made up of old men and boys under twenty years of age. A curious contest took place in Wilmington, Del., between nines composed of the American and German saloon-keepers. The former won by a score of 38 to 4. The members of the Chicago Fire Department organized a club and played similar nines in other cities. "Cherokee" Fisher—the once famous pitcher—played third-base for the Chicago team. The police and firemen of Brooklyn were seen on the ball-field, the newsboys and bootblacks of Baltimore, and the lawyers and doctors of the same city also indulged in games. Two nines, representing the lawyers of Washington and Baltimore, played in the latter city. The journalists decisively defeated the lawyers of Pittsburg in a game limited to five innings owing to a general protest on the part of the inhabitants of that city. The druggists of Detroit and Cleveland contended Oct. 5, the former winning by a score of 18 to 8. George F. Slosson captained a nine of billiard-players which defeated several hotel-teams. In a game between the married and single men of Meriden, Ct., four clergymen played on the former team. The announcement of a game Aug. 8 at Mount Carmel, Pa., had the effect of stopping many of the collieries in that vicinity and giving the place a holiday appearance. Two thousand coal-miners, it is estimated, witnessed the contest. Charles S. Brown, the Pittsburg "coal-king," organized a nine last season, adorning his ball-players with gorgeous apparel, and fastening a costly gold watch and enormous diamonds to each one of them. He also engaged a glee-club to accompany the team. The pitcher was "The only Nolan." The insane patients in the asylums in Philadelphia and Washington devoted a reasonable time daily to the diamond field. All the theatres in San Francisco were represented in a game which took place Oct. 21 in that city. The members of the Modjeska Dramatic Company played several games last season. The contest between the Cincinnati and Anthracite Clubs April 28 in Cincinnati, O., was a novel one, Deagle, McCormick and White of the home-team each pitching in the three successive innings that they played. The other eight positions of the Cincinnatis were unchanged during the game. John L. Sullivan, the pugilist, filled the position of pitcher for the Metropolitan Club against a picked nine May 28 in this city, and for the Athletics against an amateur team June 1 in Philadelphia. He also essayed to fill that position for a picked nine in a game with the St. Louis Club Nov. 4 in St. Louis. It is almost unnecessary to say that the contests were burlesques, Sullivan's display disgusting the spectators, who had been attracted by announcements of his alleged skill as a ball-player. The public proved how gullible it was, and Sullivan received upwards of $3,000 for his share of the gate-receipts in these three games.

JAMES F. MCKEE has finally decided to accept an offer to manage a professional team now being organized in Milwaukee, which has secured membership in the Northwestern League, taking Toledo's place. Minneapolis will take the place of Springfield, and either St. Paul or Stillwater that of Quincy in the Northwestern League, the annual meeting of which will be held Jan. 9 in Chicago.

PHILADELPHIA will try to support three professional teams next season, representing respectively the American Association, National League and Union Association. If the schedules are all carried out there will be one hundred and fifty-one championship games played in the Quaker City during the season of 1884.

HORACE B. PHILLIPS enters the theatrical profession next season as advance-agent of a well-known variety combination. He has been acknowledged for several years past as one of the shrewdest and most successful of baseball managers.

MANAGER BARNIE has made arrangements with League clubs to play exhibition games in Baltimore on the following dates: April 7, 8, Buffalo; 10, 11, 12, Providence; 14, 15, 16, Detroit; 17, 18, 19, Cleveland; 21, 22, Boston.

BROWN UNIVERSITY'S NINE in 1884 will include Bassett, Gunderson, Durfee, Wadsworth and Seagraves of last season's team. Bobby Mathews or Paul Hines have been talked of as likely to coach the nine during the Winter.

THE WESTERN NEW YORK ASSOCIATION will be formed shortly with professional clubs of Rochester, Syracuse, Utica, Elmira and Binghamton as its members.

THE SALOON of Clapp & Lynch in this city was damaged by fire to the extent of $500 on Sunday morning, Dec. 23.

J. H. GIFFORD, the veteran manager, is mentioned as likely to fill that position with the New York Club next season.

WE HAVE LETTERS for John F. Kelly and Preston L. Merrill,

BASEBALL.

THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN CONVENTION.

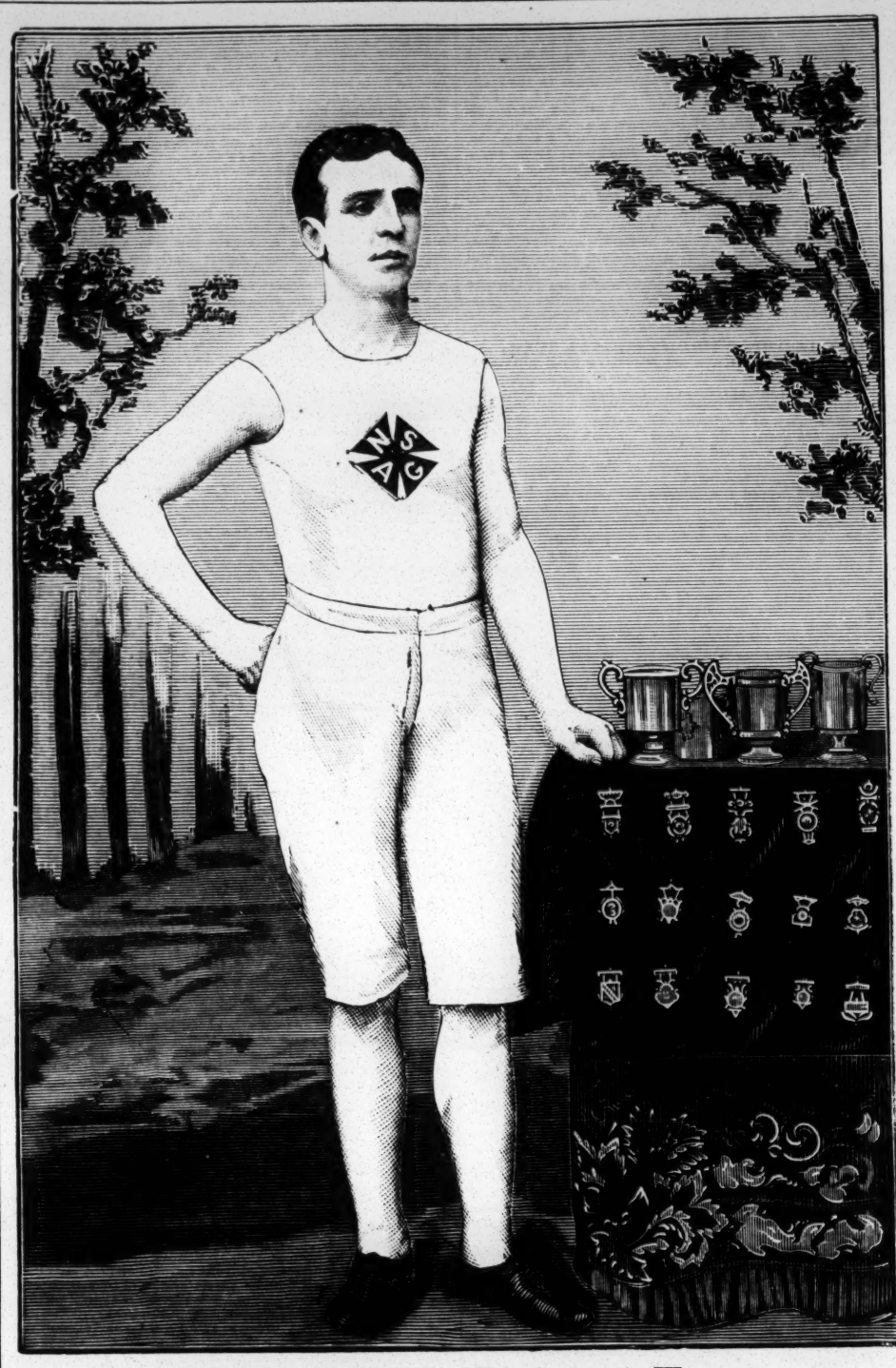
The most intelligent and influential representation of clubs seen at any American Association Convention was that which was gathered at Cincinnati on the 12th inst., and the legislative work they accomplished afforded ample proof of the fact. Questions of the utmost importance to the future welfare of the professional fraternity had to be acted upon, and the decisions arrived at were, almost without exception, sound in judgment and well calculated to promote the best interests not only of the individual association immediately concerned, but also those of the fraternity at large. The American Convention, without a dissentient voice, promptly acquiesced in the legislation of the Arbitration Committee, and unanimously adopted the report of that committee as embodied in the "national agreement." The League had at their convention suggested a course of procedure affecting the position occupied by the newly-organized rival associations of the "Union League" and the Union Association, which course involved the establishing of the non-intercourse act, in case either of the new associations should carry out their proposed plan of organizing new clubs in cities in which either League or American clubs were located. Moreover, a resolution had been offered in the League by Mr. Day of the Metropolitan Exhibition Company, the effect of which was to expel every player, of either the League or the American Association, who had been reserved by any club of either association, and who had seceded to any club of any outside association—a proviso being added enabling the seceding player to escape the penalty in question if he returned to his former club prior to the opening of the playing season in 1884. This resolution was also promptly endorsed by the American Association, and no doubt its practical effect will be to cause the return of the seceders before March sets in, a period both the League and American clubs have taught them to beware of. They left their clubs to better their condition, and it is now merely a calculation as to which course will pay better—either to abide with their new friends and thereby be shut out forever from future service in the old Association clubs, or, by returning to their allegiance, to accept a surety in lieu of an uncertainty. One question involved in this decision is of interest to the new clubs whose managers have been so liberally but imprudently paying out advance-money; and that is, if the players do go back, how are the new club people to get their advance-money back? The American Association, in discussing this question, found very quickly that they either had to give up the reserve-rule or sustain it by the very action they have taken. There was no other course for them to adopt. Their most experienced legislators had decided, alike in committee-meeting and in convention, that the reserved-men rule was one best calculated to promote the pecuniary interests of both the clubs and their players. Events had occurred during the past season that proved conclusively that an open market for players would have resulted in an increase of salary-figures, which would have rendered the paying of company dividends out of the question, while it would most assuredly have bankrupted the less wealthy companies who had entered into competition for the high-priced players. At any rate, whether they were sound in their views of the question or not, they proposed to try the experiment for a year to see how it worked, and if it proved to be arbitrarily unjust to the players a remedy was easily at command. With this idea fixed, they could not do anything but defend their rule when attacked, and this both associations have done most effectually. Moreover, the American Association have added such action in their legislation as will see that the player has justice done him in the matter of arrears of pay. Considering the whole subject in an equitable light, it does not clearly seem to be much of "an outrage" to limit the services of a professional ball-player to one thousand dollars for five months of service, which perhaps is as much that of healthy recreation as of laborious work.

As regards the amendments made to the playing-rules of the game by the American Association, there is no questioning the fact that they are decidedly in advance of the League legislation on the same subject. They have done two things the League failed to do which will be of advantage to the game, and that is the inflicting of a penalty on the pitcher for delivering the ball in such a way as to inflict injury on the batsman, and the changing of the rule prohibiting the overhand throw so as to make it impossible that it can become a dead-letter law, as it was last season. The League in failing to offset the increased power given the attacking force in the game, by allowing the overhand throw, with a rule giving the batsman greater freedom of movement in defense, and increased facilities for "place hitting," have simply thrown improvement in the game back for a year. The American convention acted with more judgment, as they restricted the attack, though they did not improve the batsman's position by any special amendment to the rules governing the batting. In regard to the foul-bound catch, the American convention looked at the matter solely from a business point of view. It was argued that the point of making a foul-bound catch led to exciting phases that lent an additional attraction to the patrons of the game; and as this pecuniary argument was powerful, the League fly-game failed to be endorsed.

The American Association wisely left the door open for such further amendments to the rules as afterthought might suggest by leaving the matter to be finally acted upon at the Spring meeting of 1884. It is to be hoped that when they come to revise the scoring rules at that meeting they will perceive the advantage to be derived from leaving out the record of extra base-hits in the summary. When a batsman looks at his score and sees his name conspicuously placed therein, not as doing surprising acts of skillful fielding, base-running or batting, but simply for making a three-base hit or a home-run, his efforts are at once directed to the achievement of just such batting as will place him thus prominently on the record. In fact, this very rule of scoring, more than anything else in the code, leads batsmen to play for their record at the bat, instead of for the interests of the side they represent.

THE UMPIRE QUESTION.

There is no questioning the fact that the method adopted for the selection of umpires in the League and the American Association in 1883 proved to be a failure. The theory was good, but not the way in which it was practically carried out. It is worth while to examine into the causes of this failure, with a view to avoiding similar errors next season; and at the same time to consider the practical working of the umpire system, especially in regard to the matter of affording due protection to the occupants of the position while in the discharge of their onerous duties. First as to the position itself, and what is required in the individual who occupies it. The essentials of a thoroughly competent umpire in a match-game are first integrity of character, so as to insure honest decisions, and next the courage of his convictions to give him that determination in the discharge of his duties which will make him independent of the adverse opinions of a prejudiced crowd of spectators. Again he must have a thorough knowledge of the spirit and intent of the laws of the game he is called upon to interpret, as well as of the letter of each prominent rule of the code, in order that he may be prompt in rendering his decision on every point the moment it occurs. Finally, he must have an aptitude for the position in the moral courage to do his duty independently of any outside pressure, as in his ability to umpire a game in a manner that carries with his every decision the certainty that it is thoroughly impartial and characterized by good judgment. Now, these are attributes not to be found in one out of a hundred of those who are either applicants for the position or who think they can discharge the duties properly. So much for the individual requisites of a successful umpire. Outside of this there is the very important element of success in umpiring that is involved in the question of affording the umpire due protection from partisan insults and abuse. Without this protection the best of umpires must fail in doing their duty thoroughly. No matter how perfect the system of selecting umpires may be, or how well fitted in every respect the individual occupant of the position may be, unless he is duly protected from the "bulldozing" of partisans who are to be found to a more or less extent on every professional ball-ground in the country, it will be impossible for him to do justice either to himself or to the clubs he umpires for. It is all very well for this or that man to say that he does not care what the crowd says; but the fact is that he does care—he cannot help caring. He may think himself independent of the outside pressure, but it will have its influence on his work. He occupies the position of one man against a thousand. To give due effect to the edicts of this one individual his position should be guarded with just such protecting care as the Judge is in a criminal court. The neglect of this protection was one of the most prolific sources of trouble connected with the umpiring of the past season. Umpires were time and again permitted to be insulted and bullied with impunity, both by the partisans among the crowd of spectators and by the players on the field. Thanks to the amendment made to the rules, a five-dollar fine is now to be inflicted on every player—other than the captain—who in any way addresses the umpire in reference to any point of play affecting a decision he renders. It is not now optional with the umpire to inflict the penalty—it is part and parcel of the rules, and he must enforce it the same as any other rule of the code. This will put a stop to the "kicking" of players. To prevent bullying by the crowd, there should be put up at the entrance-way to every professional ground a notice to the effect that it is a condition of admission that everyone purchasing a ticket shall be subject to prompt ejectment from the field for disorderly conduct of any kind. This gives the police the desired authority to act promptly in all cases where individuals in a crowd make insulting comments on the decisions of the umpire. No man is allowed to make such insulting remarks to actors on the stage of a theatre, and the professional ball-ground is but the theatre of an exhibition of athletic skill, instead of the performance of a drama. The amendment to the League rules governing the position of the umpire, which throws the whole responsibility of selecting umpires for the season's work on the secretary of the Association, is a good one, as is that which forbids his removal, except for special cause, such as an express violation of any of the rules of the code he is required to interpret. There is one thing to be considered in this matter of umpiring, and that is that the position is one essential to the practical existence of the game. The code of rules might be improved until the point of perfection was reached, and yet nothing could be done without making the position of the umpire one independent of outside pressure. Get the best men you can for the position, and make the best rules for their guidance that we may, unless we give them protection from partisan abuse the system must necessarily result in failure.



RICHARD McCAUSLAND, AMATEUR WALKER.

This well-known amateur athlete of Williamsburg, L. I., was born in Londonderry, Ireland, in January, 1863, is 5ft. 7in. in height, and weighs when in condition 135lb. He measures 36in. around the chest; upper arm, 12½in.; lower arm, 11½in.; thigh, 21in.; calf, 15in. He arrived in this country on April 24, 1873, and his first attempt at walking was made on July 25, 1879, in a match-race with M. A. Fitzgerald for a gold medal. The distance was five miles and the race ended in a draw, the men walking a dead heat. His next attempt was on Aug. 25 in a three-mile walk at Ravenswood, L. I., which he won in 27m., G. Very second. At the games of the Clan-na-Gael Association at Jones' Wood, in September, 1879, walked third to W. Comer and D. Lehane, three miles. Nov. 2 walked five miles against M. A. Fitzgerald to decide the dead heat, winning in 46m. At Winter meeting of North-side A. C. walked third to Frank P. Murray and E. McGregor in a three-mile handicap. At Spring games of Williamsburg A. C., June, 1880, was disqualified in a three-mile walk. Same year, at games of the Adelphi A. C., finished second by four inches to R. Rogers in a one-mile walk; winner's time, 7m. 57⅗s. At games of Orion R. and A. A., won a two-mile walk in 17m. 54s.; T. Phillips, G. A. C., second. At games of Montgomery A. C., second to F. P. Murray in three-mile, handicap; winner's time, 23m. 49s. At Fall meeting of North-side A. C. won a two-mile walk in 16m. 40s.; R. Broadman second. At games of Volksfest at Wood's Athletic Grounds was defeated by F. Trunkett in a two-mile walk. At the Clan-na-gael games won a mile-walk in 8m. 12s.; F. Kane second. 1881—At games of Williamsburg A. C. was defeated by F. Trunkett, two miles. At games of Twenty-second Regiment was disqualified in a mile-walk. At games of Clan-na-gael Society of New Jersey won a half-mile walk in 3m. 53s. At games of Scottish-American A. C. third in a two-mile walk, won by G. Nichols. At games of Irish-American A. C. won a one-mile walk in 7m. 35s.; R. Bolen second. At games of American A. C. was disqualified in a three-mile handicap, D. Sullivan winning in 24m. 43s. At games of Orion R. and A. A. won a two-mile handicap in 16m. 10s., R. Rogers second. At games of Albion Club, started from scratch in a four-mile handicap, 4m. limit, and was defeated by E. Lange and F. Fiegle, with 1m. start. At the Clan-na-gael games started from scratch in a three-mile handicap, and finished second to F. Fiegle, 20s. start; winner's time, 25m. 54s.; McCausland's, 25m. 39s. At games of Jersey City Caledonian Club started from scratch in a two-mile walk, and finished second to S. Bolen, 60s. start. At games of David's Prize Soap Company walked second to W. S. Hart, five miles; winner's time, 46m. 47s. 1882—At games of Twelfth Regiment walked second to J. H. Hocking, one mile; winner's time, 7m. 1s. At games of Warren A. C. won a two-mile walk in 16m. 10s., J. Moran second. At games of Williamsburg A. C. was defeated in a three-mile walk by J. G. Baird and Wm. Meek. At the Waiters' games won a mile run and a two-mile walk, no time being taken. At Fall games of Pastime A. C. won a mile-walk in 7m. 24s.; McDonald, N. Y. W. C., second. At Winter games of Manhattan A. C. was disqualified in a mile-and-a-half walk. 1883—At games of Columbia College Boat Club, March 16, 17, with 20s. start, finished second (in 7m. 18s.) to J. J. Cahill, 50s., in mile handicap won in 7m. 47⅕s. He also started (with 45s.) in the two-mile handicap, stopping at 1¾ miles. At games of Williamsburg A. C., April 28, with 15s. start, won mile-and-a-half walk in 11m. 3⅘s.; W. S. Hart, 10s., second; F. P. Murray, scratch, third. At the championship meeting June 2 he obtained second place in the seven-mile walk, being beaten by W. H. Meek, whose time was 56m. 48⅗s.; McCausland's, 1h. ⅘s. He was formerly a member of the North-side Athletic Club, but in the last two races he walked in the dark-blue colors of the Williamsburg A. C.

THE FEMALE BALL-PLAYERS

at the latest date were in Chicago, waiting to be sent home to Philadelphia by the charity route. There are thirteen of them, the oldest of whom is but seventeen. Miss Temple, the pitcher of the "Reds," in an interview said that the girls' idea in starting out to play ball was partly for the fun of it and to see the country.

"Are any of them tired of the fun?" she was asked.

"Yes, I guess they are; I know I am."

"You don't mind it, do you, in warm weather, when you are in good luck?"

"Oh, no. It's all right then, but we made a mistake in starting out on this last trip. It was too late in the season."

"Do any of the girls ever get their teeth knocked out or anything during the progress of a game?"

"No, we don't throw as hard as the men do, and if a ball comes too fast for us we look out for No. 1 and dodge it you know."

"Where did the girls of the company come from? Were any of them ever on the stage?"

"They're mostly from Philadelphia. Only two of them have ever been on the stage—one as Topsy and the other as Eva in a juvenile 'Uncle Tom' party a year or two ago. The rest are working-girls and school-girls who like the fun and the travel."

They were given a benefit in Chicago Dec. 10, but the receipts were only $35.

CRESCENT CITY vs. BRENNAN.

An one-sided contest took place Dec. 16 in New Orleans, La., between the Brennan team—the champion amateurs of that city—and Gore's team of Northern professionals, known as the Crescent City Club. Kelly, Quest, Daly and Ewing had returned North and thus weakened Gore's team, while the Brennans were without the services of Lorsch, their pitcher, and Nick Brennan. The home-team failed to make a solitary run or safe hit off Hecker's very effective pitching, and in fact only one reached first base and then on called balls. Mundinger's clever catching was the only redeeming feature of the Brennans' play. The score was:

CRESCENT CITY.	T.	R.	1B.	P.O.	A.	E.	BRENNAN.	T.	R.	1B.	P.O.	A.	E.
Wise, 1st b	5	1	2	13	0	1	J. Woulfe, r. f	3	0	0	1	0	0
Gore, c. f	5	1	1	0	0	0	Farrell, 3d b	3	0	0	1	4	4
Hecker, p	5	1	1	2	5	1	Lambeau, 1st b	3	0	0	8	0	1
Williamson, 3d b	5	1	0	0	0	0	Berkery, l. f	3	0	0	2	2	2
Carpenter, s. s	5	3	1	0	3	0	Butler, 2d b	3	0	0	2	1	1
McPhee, 2d b	5	3	3	0	1	0	Landry, p., c. f	3	0	0	0	1	1
Flint, r. f	5	1	1	0	0	0	Mundinger, c	2	0	0	8	1	2
Nava, l. f., c	5	1	2	7	1	1	Irwin, s. s	2	0	0	0	1	2
Sullivan, c., l. f	4	1	1	2	0	0	M. Woulfe, c. f., p	2	0	0	1	0	2
Totals	44	13	12	24	10	3	Totals	24	0	0	*23	10	15

Crescent City	0	1	0	4	0	1	2	5	—13
Brennan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—0

* Gere out for not touching third base.

Earned runs—Crescent City, 4. Two-base hits—Wise (2), McPhee, Sullivan. Umpire, Tennyson of the R. E. Lee Club.

THE UNION ASSOCIATION CONVENTION.

The newly-organized Union Baseball Association held its first regular convention on Dec. 18 at the Bingham House, Philadelphia, on which occasion representatives from new clubs in St. Louis, Chicago and Cincinnati in the West, and from Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington in the East, filed their credentials. The meeting was rendered one of more than ordinary interest from the fact that the Association is the more prominent of the two new professional organizations that have sprung into existence this Fall as rival candidates to the League and the American Association for the patronage of the baseball public for the ensuing season of 1884. The "Union League" began its career with an effort to secure the endorsement of the older organizations by recognizing the right of the League and American clubs to reserve men for service in their ranks at a fixed and stated salary. The "Union Association," on the other hand, entered the arena as opponents of the reserved men rule in question. At the recent conventions of the League and American Association their legislation was such as to deal a blow at the successful existence of both of these new Associations, they declining to recognize the Union League unless they should conclude to forego their intention of organizing new clubs in cities where either the League or the American Association already had clubs in existence, while they put into force a non-intercourse act against the clubs of the Union Association, not only on account of their building up new clubs in League and American cities, but also because they had opened their doors to the engagement of their reserved players, who had not signed any special contract. This was the situation the Union Association club delegates had to face at their convention, and hence the meeting necessarily became one of special interest to the clubs immediately concerned, and of general interest to the fraternity at large. The delegates present were H. V. Lucas and Theo. Benoist from St. Louis, A. H. Henderson and E. S. Hengle from Chicago, Justus Thorner from Cincinnati, Thos. J. Pratt from Philadelphia, B. F. Matthews and I. W. Lowe from Baltimore, and H. B. Bennett and M. B. Scanlan from Washington. After the roll had been called and the Cincinnati Club had been duly elected a member of the Association, and applications from several clubs for membership had been referred to the Board of Directors—the list including the Dayton Club, the Leaders of Kingston and the Covington Club—the business of framing a constitution and by-laws was proceeded with and the laws of the American Association were adopted in the main. One prominent exception, however, was that the Union Association will allow no exhibition games to be played between its championship teams during the championship season, they following the excellent rule of the League in this respect.

A brief resume of the prominent laws of the new association shows that new clubs are to be admitted by a majority vote by ballot. In the American Association two negative votes by ballot exclude applicants. The championship is to be decided by the greatest number of games won, and not by a percentage of victories, as in the American Association. Players released by a club are not eligible to sign until ten days after the notice of the release has been filed with the Union secretary. This is to prevent clubs from exchanging players without giving other clubs a chance to bid for their services. An Alliance clause was added to the constitution similar in its effect to those rejected by the League and the American Association, so as to admit to a quasi membership clubs from small towns not able to enter for the Union championship. These Alliance clubs will, of course, be eligible for exhibition games with the regular Union teams. No Union club championship team will be allowed to play a match with any League, American or Northwestern club team. This is a spirited act of retaliation for the passage of the non-intercourse act by the American Association. The Board of Directors were authorized to appoint three regular umpires at a salary of $500 for the season, with three substitutes at so much a day while employed. In amending their code of playing rules they adopted the American rules governing the pitching, which oblige an underhand delivery and punish the pitcher for hitting the batsman with the ball. But they adopted the League fly-game, by repudiating the foul-bound catch. When the election for officers came up in order, the following delegates were chosen, as follow: President, Henry Lucas of St. Louis; vice-president, Thomas J. Pratt of Philadelphia; secretary and treasurer, Wm. Warren White of Washington; directors, Justus Thorner of Cincinnati, H. B. Bennett of Washington and A. H. Henderson of Chicago. Messrs. Pratt, Thorner and Hengle were appointed a schedule committee, to meet in Washington in March. This closed the work of the first day's session. On Dec. 19 the business was resumed, and the work of the convention completed. The Schedule Committee were requested to meet in Cincinnati between March 15 and 20, where they will not only lay out the championship programme, but also appoint the umpires. The prominent candidates for the position are F. P. Sullivan of the Northwestern League Corps of '83, Joe Kelly of Philadelphia and Mike Hooper of Baltimore. The present limit of six clubs as competitors for the Union championship is likely to be increased to eight clubs before the season opens, but it will not go beyond that. The officers and delegates of the new Association expressed themselves as satisfied with the result of their deliberations, and President Lucas declared that if the members kept pulling together they would be the first Association of the country in the course of one year, and would break up the reserve-rule. During the meeting the corridors of the Bingham House were packed with baseball men and players of all the associations. Harry Wright of the Philadelphia Club, Robert Ferguson of the Union League, John B. Sage of Buffalo, Lew Simmons, vice-president of the American Association and of the Athletic Club, H. A. Ditson of Boston, John T. West of Wilmington, and Harry Spence, manager of the Monumental Club of Baltimore, were among the more conspicuous. Dunlap, Shaffer and Corcoran, the three most prominent League players who have jumped the reserve-rule, were also in attendance.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

Secretary Wikoff of the American Association sends us a list of the players thus far recorded as being disqualified from future service in any American Association clubs: Frank Larkin, John Sweeney, Harry T. Pyle, Frank Cunliffe, James Egan, Henry S. Moore, John Grady, B. McLaughlin, Wm. E. Wise, Wm. Welsh.

Those disqualified by the League are George Bechtel, G. W. Hall, A. H. Nichols, W. H. Craver, Richard Higham and Herman Doscher.

Those disqualified by the Northwestern League are W. F. Yott, Harrey Arundell, George Baker, H. E. Overbeck, E. Lockwood. The following have been reinstated and made eligible to contract: Frank Gardner and John Milligan; also John J. Smith and Harry T. Luff suspended for the season of 1883.

UNION LEAGUE CONTRACTS.

Secretary Diddlebock of the Union League has issued the appended circular:

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20, 1883.

You are hereby notified that I have approved contracts of the Virginia Club of Richmond with Wm. M. Nash, C. J. Ferguson, E. T. Scharf, E. C. Glenn, Henry Morgan, Wm. H. Dugan, E. J. Dugan, David Cain, E. A. Powell, William Smiley and Paul Latouche; the Monumental Club of Baltimore with John Brill; and the Quickstep Club of Wilmington with Wm. G. McCloskey, Emanuel Snyder, Henry Miller, Thos. Burns, Dennis P. Casey, Charles J. Bastian, Andrew Cusick and James Say. A meeting of the Union League will be held at noon Jan. 3, 1884, at the Bingham House, Philadelphia. Yours truly,

HENRY H. DIDDLEBOCK.

THE *Herald-Crimson* of Harvard College in an editorial says: "While we are in hearty sympathy with the college authorities in their efforts to keep the taint of professionalism from our college athletics, we cannot forbear again calling attention to the ridiculous extreme to which their fear of this professionalism has carried them. It is a well-known fact that our baseball nine made a failure of its last season, although it started out with the brightest prospects, simply from the lack of professional training. Although other colleges had the advantage of a professional player in training their pitchers and their batsmen, we were compelled to play through the season without having had the least preliminary training. The baseball association should be allowed to engage a professional pitcher or trainer at once, when other colleges are doing so, and should not be obliged to go through another season similar to the last. If the nine is to be handicapped another year in this manner, it were better that Harvard withdrew from the college league. As long as we have professional trainers in sparring, fencing and general athletics, we cannot see why we should not have professional trainers in baseball playing. Playing with professionals is certainly not so injurious as playing with some of the teams we practiced with last year, although we confess that the general recruiting of the professional ranks from among college players that has taken place during the past few seasons is a severe blow to college athletics."

THE ENACTMENT OF THE FIVE-MILE LAW by the American Association will have one singular result, and that is that it will virtually nullify the New York Club's power to prevent League clubs playing in Brooklyn, inasmuch as the American rule gives Brooklyn as much control over New York as the New York Club has over Brooklyn. If the New York refuses to allow any League club to play in Brooklyn, the Brooklyn Club can prevent any League club playing the Metropolitans in New York.

WALKER, the colored catcher of the Toledo Club, is now practicing law in Steubenville, O. Harold McClure, Ward's old catcher, is a leading legal luminary of Williamsport, Pa.

THE UNION-CLUB PLAYERS.

The players engaged by the clubs of the Union Association to date are enumerated below:

ST. LOUIS CLUB—George Shaffer, Fred Dunlap, John Gleason, Tony Mullane, William Taylor, William Dickerson, David Rowe, E. J. O'Connor, Nick Brennan, Mike Mansell and James Woulff.

CHICAGO CLUB—Charles F. Householder, T. P. Sullivan, E. J. Henzle, Joseph Ellick, William H. Colgan, E. S. Hengler, Thomas Gunning, L. W. Schoneck, John B. McSorley, George B. Pinckney, W. S. Kreig, Larry J. Corcoran, R. E. Hogan.

KEYSTONE CLUB of Philadelphia—William Hoover, William Kienzle, H. Geer, Levi S. Meyerle, Samuel Weaver, James McCormack, Thomas J. Gillen, George Patterson, Henry T. Luff J. E. Rosdrie, John J. McGuinness.

BALTIMORE CLUB—William H. Robinson, John E. Seerig, Frank Meinke, William J. Sweeny, J. D. Phelan, E. C. Kent, E. L. Fusselbach, Charles H. Levis, S. A. D. Behel, C. McFarland, Louis Say, John E. O'Brien.

CINCINNATI CLUB—George Bradley, Wm. Harbidge and Charles D. Barber.

NATIONAL CLUB of Washington—W. E. Wise, Philip Baker, Thomas Evans, Alexander Voss.

THE LATEST BULLETIN

from the American Association is as follows:

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION BASEBALL CLUBS,
Columbus, O., Dec. 19, 1883.

NOTICE No. 3.

DEAR SIR: I have approved the following contracts for season of 1884: St. Louis with John T. Ward, Ernest Hickman and George C. Wagner, and Toledo with P. C. Gilman. I have received notice of the following contracts: Cleveland with Jacob Evans, Providence with John Irwin, and Bay City with George Begnall and Chas. H. Robinson. Very respectfully,
WHEELER C. WIKOFF, Secretary.

THE VIRGINIA CLUB OF RICHMOND, VA., will be given exhibition games by the League and American clubs next season, provided it does not affiliate with the Union Association. It would have been admitted to the American Association but for the fact that that would have given the East three new clubs to one from the West.

THERE IS VERY LITTLE DOUBT of all the reserved players who have signed with outside clubs returning to their original clubs on or before April 1 next. It is a pretty serious business for a player to be debarred from ever playing in a League or Association club team, and that is to be the cost of holding to their outside engagements.

BASEBALL IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The Oceanic and Alameda Clubs contended Nov. 30 in Honolulu, Hawaii, the former proving the winners, with a score of 32 to 19. Another game was played Dec. 1 on the same grounds between the Island College and town teams, the former coming off victorious by 24 to 10. Both games were largely attended.

DOUBLED UP—Morton, the manager and third-baseman of the Toledo team, and Ed. Swartwood of the Alleghenys have been recently added to the list of married men.

BILLIARDS.

NEW YORK.

Slosson, Heiser, Frey, Knight and King.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 20.

EDITOR N. Y. CLIPPER.—*Dear Sir:* On Dec. 18 Slosson and Heiser gave an exhibition at the Bennett House, which has been opened with seven U. S. Standard Co.'s tables—four pool and three carom. In an eight-inch balkline game of 250 points Slosson won by 230, averaging 62¼, his best run being 176. At straight rail, 300 up, Slosson also won, his majority being 34, the best run, 141, falling to Heiser, who also gave his fancy shots. On the next night they played at Weir & Sexton's which has eight U. S. Standard tables, five of them pool. In a string of 75, cushion-caroms, Heiser won by 20, the best runs being 17 for the winner and 20 for the loser; and at the Champion's Game Slosson was victorious by 200 to 68, the winner's average being 25 and his best run 104. Samuel F. Knight officiated as marker. This game was followed by a contest at pool between Al Lambert and Sam Knight, best in nine games, Knight winning; and then Albert Frey was beaten by six to five by Joseph King. Frey followed with a series of fancy shots at pool, and Heiser brought the entertainment to a close with his usual repertory of fancy shots at carom billiards. There was a very large attendance at both places.

Heiser began active practice Dec. 22 for his second game with McLaughlin. He played on Dec. 20, but not on the table he will practice on for the match. He did remarkably well, making runs of 109, 72, 68, etc., and showing great steadiness. He has never played the pony balkline game better than he did on this occasion.

Binghamton, N. Y., has now forty-five public tables. The number is almost too many for a town of its population.

Frey, Knight, King, Lambert and Van Buskirk returned to this city on Dec. 20, as also did Slosson and Heiser.

There was an important confabulation in this city last week. There was another early this week. The subject discussed is not a new thing. It was broached early this year, and was renewed about two months ago. It will have an important bearing upon billiards, if carried out; and, as it will probably do the game a service, we welcome the prospect. More anon.

John D. O'Connor's preliminary pool tournament, postponed for a few days, is to begin at his Madison-square Hall Dec. 26. At this writing there are five entries.

Albert Frey was winner in-chief of the pool tournament in Binghamton, N. Y.

The many friends of "Don" of *The N. Y. Times*, who has been known in billiard circles for the past thirty years, will regret to learn that for about a week he has been confined to his room by hemorrhages resulting from an accident he met with when twelve years of age. Surgeons and physicians in consultation have decided that amputation of the leg, a serious matter to one of his years, is the one chance in one hundred there is of saving his life.

Business was brisk at Pomeroy's room last week, and particularly so last Saturday night.

It is reported that after Jan. 1 next H. W. Collender will take that rest to which long service has certainly entitled him, and retire from active business.

It is also reported that George F. Slosson has been offered a goodly sum and expenses to go to Paris and again defeat Vignaux, parties on the other side having made overtures to bim to this effect; but we do not believe it, because we cannot see why any parties on the other side can be interested in having Vignaux defeated in a real encounter for money and fame. It is better for trade in France that he should win. Besides, Vignaux would probably not play Slosson, were the latter to go to Paris. He would not play him while both were here, although he could easily have done so by waiting until his six months' American contract was up, instead of going home a month before it expired. Vignaux has no longer any wish to play Slosson anywhere for "blood."

PENNSYLVANIA.

Ed. McLaughlin has been furnished with a United States Standard table at his room in Philadelphia, and is now making arrangements to give Heiser a warm reception on his next visit to Philadelphia, during the second week in January next.

There was a typographical error in the score of the McLaughlin-Heiser match, as published last week. Everything of importance was correctly given—the totals, the chief runs and the averages. The last, moreover, showed that the winner had fourteen innings and the loser thirteen. The score itself had but thirteen for the winner and but twelve for the loser, an entire line having been left out. This —3 for McLaughlin and 0 for Heiser—will make the former's score agree with his total just before he had got into his second hundred (or 87), and will give Heiser the four ciphers he made handrunning.

NEW ORLEANS.

At John Miller's room, Dec. 19, A. P. Coit, "The Coney Island Kid," played James Johnson at fifteen-ball pool. Coit won sixteen games out of twenty-six, the best in thirty-one having been called for. At the close of the contest, which was for fifty dollars, Capt. Miller announced a challenge to the winner from Mr. Moulds of St. Louis, "once considered the champion of the country," says a New Orleans journal. This must have been many years before our time. *The Picayune* is of the opinion that Coit will probably accept.

John Oberlander made a run of 98 at the pony balkline a few nights ago, and defeated John Miller.

On Dec. 18 Frank Maggioli beat Oberlander at the same game by 300 to 125, his best runs being 84, 74 and 68, and his average 12. The loser, who averaged 5, had 30 for high run.

Isidore Bushe and Theo. Peterson have made a match as the result of a challenge issued by the latter. At last accounts there was a dispute as to where they would play.

On Dec. 14 Maggioli gave John Miller forty per cent. and a beating at pony balkline, scoring 200 to 101. The winner's average was 8 and best run 56. Maggioli also beat Oberlander by 300 to 212, his best run being 37 and his average 7.34-38.

Nothing has been done regarding the proposition for a match between Maggioli and Catton of St. Louis at straight-rail. The challenge came in behalf of Catton, and proposed one game, to be played in St. Louis. The New Orleans player preferred a home-and-home match.

There is some talk of instituting a tournament for the championship of the Northwest and Southwest, to take place either here or in Chicago.

MICHIGAN.

DETROIT, Dec. 19.

EDITOR NEW YORK CLIPPER.—*Dear Sir:* Mummary, winner of second prize in the recent pool tournament at Armstrong's Arcade, has challenged Hogan, winner of the first prize, to a match at pool for one hundred dollars. It is to take place on any day after the holidays.

In the practice-game at Armstrong's the other night, William Burleigh played one of the best three-ball games ever seen in this section. His opponent was George Gates, and he gave him the odds of double-discount. The latter made but 10 points in 500. Burleigh ran 60 and 440, and stopped. Burleigh's challenge to play anyone in Michigan for $100, and give him the odds of 150 in 500 at straight rail, has been accepted by Mr. Harrington of Ypsilanti.

I have just learned from Mr. Schunbergh that he is this week to put nine tables into Tom Stevens' famous restaurant in this city. Yours truly, PYRAMID.

In Ypsilanti, on Dec. 27, Harrington of that place and William Burleigh of Detroit are to play their match, referred to above.

THEATRICAL RECORD.

Movements, Business and Incidents of the Theatrical, Circus, Musical and Minstrel Professions, Special Correspondence by Telegraph and Mail, Etc., Etc.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1883.

New Credentials

have been issued to our authorized correspondents in the customary folio form for the period of SEVEN MONTHS from Nov. 1, 1883—BLUE MOROCCO, having on the outside an engraving of THE CLIPPER BUILDING, printed in gold, and on the inside, upon YELLOW-COLORED PAPER, the names of the city, correspondent, etc. signed by the Manager of the Frank Queen Publishing Company (Limited), and the stamp of the office, dated Nov. 1, 1883, affixed. A photograph likeness of the correspondent is attached. These credentials are *not transferable.*

AS SOME CHANGES have been made in our staff of correspondents, managers, before extending favors or giving information to ANY OF THEM, will please request the exhibition of their credentials. All persons who have applied for the position of correspondent and who have not received an answer will please consider that their services are not needed.

No notice whatever will be taken of applications for the position of correspondent unless a photograph—on paper, not mounted on card board, showing head and bust only, size of head (measuring from point of chin to top of head) five-eighths of an inch—is inclosed. No photograph will be returned or explanation made for reason of non-appointment. *All applications must be by letter.*

CLIPPER POST-OFFICE.

☞ A STAMPED ENVELOPE, plainly addressed, must be inclosed for each and every letter, and the line of business followed by the party addressed should be given, in order to prevent mistakes.

NOTE.—Professionals and others should bear in mind that all letters, etc., in transit between the United States and Canadas *must be prepaid;* otherwise they are not forwarded.

LADIES' LIST.

Abbott, Nellie
Allen, May (of Allen Sisters)
Adams Sisters
Adair, Ada (clog-dancer)
Boyle, Clara
Bradley, Maude (of Lillian Russell's Co.)
Boyd, Annie (vocalist)
Dumont, Rose
Bent, Marion
Barron, Grace
Byrne, Annie (care of Miss Fletcher)
Cawthorne, Mrs.
Crabtree, Lotta
Crocker, Josie (of Alvin Joslin Co.)
Cooke, Ellen
Celeste, Rose
Clark, Carlotta
Cressville, Mrs. J. C.
DeRock, Elfie
Dyencourt, Lottie
Eugenia, — (change artist)
Franklin, Clara
Florence, Fannie
Fisher, Emma
Foster, Florence
Gray, Edna
Gray, Archie
Haywood, Lizzie
Hetherton, Queen
Hooker, Daisie
Harold, Jennie
Havens, Florence
Harris, Matilda (of Harris Sisters)
Howard, Nellie
Hawkins, Mrs. W. C.
Inman, Nellie (of Inman Sisters)
Irene, Mlle. (gymnast)
Jarbeau, Verona
Jackley, Mrs. N. H.
Jutau, Emma
Kimball, Jennie (manageress)
Keer, Kittie
Lauretta, Mlle.
Lindsay, Jennie (of Rentz-Santley Co.)
Lee, Minnie
LaFavre, Millie
Leece, Marie (of Banker's Daughter Co.)
Milton, May
Mulvey, Lizzie
McCaull, Lizzie
Marshall, Florence
Mather, Margaret
Morris, Gussie
Montrose, Kate
Oakes, Kittie (of Devere & Oakes)
Pike, Hattie
Price, Bijou L.
Quinlan, Mrs. J. J.
Ryan, Rosa
Robertson, Frances
Richmond, Hattie
Ryland, Mrs. G. F.
Rice, Emma (of Newell's Co.)
Raymond, Annie (vocalist)
Sabro, Millie (gymnast)
Starr, Ophelia
St. Maur, Belle
Smith, Allie
Stuart, Helen
Stockwell, Alice
Swain, Carrie
Villion, Mrs. W.
Vernon, Bessie (of Black Dwarf Co.)
Wyman, Mrs. Ali
Woods, Mrs. J. M.
Woodward, Irene
Warren, Mrs. Agnes
White, Jessie
Warde, Carrie
Ward, Isabella
Wilson, Carrie
Winnett, Mrs. S. H.
Weston, Nettie
Wilson, May (of Ford's Opera Co.)
Wilson, Mrs. Kate

GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Arnold, Max
Adams, Ralph W.
Arnold, Wm. (manager)
Aymar, Walter B.
Adams, Tommy (comedian)
Adrian, Mons.
Arlington, Billy
Allen, George (of Allen & Burns)
Aldens, The
Bishop, Charles J.
Bell, J.
Bingham, H.
Bindley, (Professor)
Bochdam, Hugo
Barlow, M. (of Barlow & Wilson)
Brown, L. L.
Blitz, F. E.
Baker, Charles
Boisset, — (gymnast)
Bliss, George
Briggs, W. F.
Bergen, C. T.
Baker, Charles (balloonist)
Bowers, Otis
Brennan, Edward
Bailey, Harry
Barclay, Fred
Brown, E. B. (manager)
Berrell, George B.
Bassett, R. (of Black Flag Co.)
Binns, Frank
Booker, George A.
Blitz, Charles
Chapman, Thos. (pantomimist)
Crandall & Eastwood
Champlin, J. R.
Colton, Harry (of Kentuck Co.)
Craig, John H.
Cooper & Jackson
Curtis, George (minstrel "biz")
Clare, Billy (of Baird's Minst.)
Clater, M.
Clarke, Kit (manager)
Cunningham & Curren
Corbyn, S. (of Mayo's Co.)
Colburn, Charles
Cawthorne, Joe (comedian)
Cleveland, W. S. (agent)
Campbell, Wood
Cline, Frank
Cooke, George E. 20c.
Cline, H. H.
Clapham, Harry (manager)
Carney, Yankee H.
Castello, Dan
Cooper, H. (giant)
Daly, Thomas
Derville, Frank
Durand, Frank (agent)
Davys, Fred
Doris, John B. (manager)
Donovan, Charles
Dalbert, M. S.
Donaldson, Prof. George
Duprez, Charles H.
Doblin, Thomas H.
Dermott & Doyle
Davene, W. M. (manager)
Davenport, Lew
Drayton, Chas.
Dorian, Altred
Davene, W. M.
Emerson & Clark
Eider, M. (of Baird's Minst.)
Eastwood, Charles
Edwards & Morton
Ellwood, H. M.
Ford, Charles W.
Forrester, Bruce
Foote, Commodore
Ford Brothers
Foster, Charles (of Silver King Co.)
Fuller, E. S.
Fursman, George
Fish, F. (of Petrie & Fish)
Fields, J. (of Fields & Leslie)
Follett, Prof. J. W.
Fleming, Mabel
Fagan, Barney (minstrel "biz")
Flynn, Matt.
Girard, Frank (leader)
Gibson, John
Gloss, Gus
Gillen, T.
Gibson & Jerome
Garnella Brothers (acrobats)
Gormon, John (of N. O. Minst.)
Gale, Walter
Gallagher, William A.
Granger, Frank
Gibbs, Clark
Gotthold, E. M.
Grant, T. F.
Gentry, James
Holmes, Harry C. (4)
Hamilton, C. (of N. O. Minst.)
Hyde, J. M. (agent)
Hallett & Roymond
Heffron, Tom J.
Herne, James A.
Horton, George B.
Hughes, Artie (of Planets)
Hedges, Henry C.
Harris, Joe
Hardine, John (minstrel "biz")
Hogarth, Thomas (magician)
Hallen & Lambert
Harvey, George
Howorth, John (manager)
Hillyer & Clark
Hennessey, Frank
Harris, C. (of The Harrises)
Hertz, Carl
Hanley, J. (manager)
Harpstrite, J. W.
Henderson, Walter
Howe, Sam
Hillyard, W. M.
Healy & Hague
Jerome, Victor
Johnson, J. Carroll
Jersman, George H.
Joyal, Dan
Koch, E.
Kempton, L. A.
Kennedy, John (messmerist)
Kidder, C. (of East Lynne Co.)
King, De Lass
Knaves, The 4
Kelly & Martin
Kennedy, P.
Lynch & Lotta
Leonard, John (of Leonard & Flynn)
Leonnelli, William
Leland, William
Lorella, T. A.
Lookmann, Harry
Loyal, Theodore
Lacose, Harry
Lindsey, Ed. (leader)
Leasdell, George
Lang, Sam
Loto & Vidello
Lester & Williams
Lang & Doille Sharp, Sam
Lennox, George H.
Lum, Com. Frank
Lambert & Richardsen
Labour, George
Mayo, Will H.
Menter, Ed
Moran, Frank
Moncrief & Rice
Marsh, William
Murphy, John E.
Mack, — (of Ferguson & Mack)
Mullen, J. (of Mullen & Mills)
McMurray, J. S. 8c.
Miaco, Alfred (clown)
Masson, Chas. A. (comedian)
Mortimer's Star Dramatic Co.
Mack, Harry
Morton, Billy
Moreland, C. (Mullelly & Moreland)
Maurittus, William
Messenger, James
Mealey & Hague
Matthews, C. C.
Magneta, The 4
Melville, Harry (of Dublin) 14c.
Main, Walter S.
Morton, L. (of Morton & Edwards)
Marlow, James (banjoist)
Moore, Frank W.
McCarthy, C. (of McCarthy & Munroe)
Mills, James K.
McLaughlin, Frank
Mack & Colter
McCabe, J. D.
Neary, James
Noyes, Chas. W. (equestrian)
Newell, C. (agent)
Nathans, John (circus manager)
O'Reilly, T. (comedian)
O'Gorman, — (of Tennyson & O'Gorman) 50c.
Onsalo, W
Parker, J. H.
Pearl, Kersey (of N. O. Minst.)
Phillips, Williams F.
Percival, Clarance
Phillips, — (manager)
Pemberton, Charles E.
Procyons, The 4
Phillips, Horace
Purvis, John
Pollard, Will S.
Powers, Jen
Patrick, J. C.
Perry, Charles (of Baird's Minst.) 6c.
Queen, B. (of Wagner's Minst.)
Ramsay, S.
Rooney, Pat (comedian)
Robins, Frank A.
Rice, Peter (manager)
Ramsey, Cass
Roberts, C. (of Warde's Comb.)
Robinson, S. (manager)
Rockwell, J. C.
Rowe, Dick
Robinson & McAllister
Richardson, B. (of Cole's Show)
Raynor, H. (of Raynor Bros.)
Raymond, Charley
Ronaldo, — (manserpent)
Raymond, (of Hallett & Raymond)
Roscoe, — (contortionist)
Schaefer & Blakely
Showles, W. (equestrian)
Shea, John (leader)
Sweeney, J. (of Sweeney & Ryland)
Stevens, R. E.
Silbon, C.
Symonds, J. H. (comedian)
Stickney, S. (circus manager)
Strebig, I. V.
Sawtelle, J. A.
Selton, Harry
Snow, Lew
Shamrocks, The 4
Sandilands, W. Scott
Sullivan, E. B.
Sterling, W. E.
Scribner, Sam A.
Silbon, C. (gymnast)
Shortis, P. (of Baird's Minst.)
Schilling, Charles E.
Sarsfield, Steve
Somers, Charles A.
Stickney, Robert
Skuse, W. (leader)
Sullivan, Mark (comedian)
Selbini, J.
Sharpley, J. W.
Stowe, James
Scammon, A. B.
Steck, Tony (clown)
Shepard, Billy (not for clog dancer)
Smith, William M.
Sweeney, — (of Sweeney & Kearney)
Searles, Dad
Silvo, F. (wire-walker)
Sands, R. (of Keating & Sands)
Tennyson, — (of Tennyson & O'Gorman) 26c.
Thompsons, The
Toner & Frobel
Thatcher, Primrose & West
Traynor, E.
Thompson, William B.
"Tom"
Taylor, Prof. E. C. (3)
Turner, W. C.
Tremaine, H. E.
Tennyson, J.
Winnett, Thomas H.
Wellesly & Sterling
Woodall, Walter B.
Waller, John E. (musician)
Wales, Leonard
Wells, Edward
Wallace, Gus T.
Watson, Thomas
Washburn, L. W.
Wills, Frank M.
Warren, A. J.
Wagner, Cal
Wilson, G. (of Barlow & Wilson)
Weitzmann, Jean
Welch & Hughes
Walters, George W.
Woodruff, Harry
Wingert, C. (of Baird's Minst.)
Welby & Pearl
Watson Children
Ward, Eugene
Whitely, John
West, William H.
Wallick, James H.
Wood, J.
Welch, Chas. (clog-dancer)
Williams, James
Wainratta, Walter J.
Wallace, Gus T.
Whittaker, Frank
Welby, Jake (of N. O. Minst.)
Wier, L. D.

ROUTES AHEAD.

Managers, agents and correspondents will oblige by sending routes so as to reach this office not later than Monday morning.

DRAMATIC.

Aldrich and Parsloe in "My Partner"—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 24, Baltimore, Md., 31, each one week.

Adams' (G. H.) "Humpty Dumpty" Co.—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24, Cleveland, O., 31, Louisville, Ky., Jan. 7, each one week.

"Banker's Daughter" Co.—Ann Arbor, Mich., Dec. 26, Sandusky, O., 27, Kenton 28, Springfield 29, Piqua 31, Dayton Jan. 1.

Baker and Farron—Cleveland, O., Dec. 24, Cincinnati 31, one week each.

Barrett, Lawrence—Springfield, Mass., Dec. 26, Pittsfield, 27, Utica, N. Y., 28, Syracuse 29, Cleveland, O., 31, New York City Jan. 7, each one week.

Barry and Fay—Washington, D. C., Dec. 24, Baltimore, Md., 31, each one week.

Basye's (E. E.) Standard Dramatic Co.—Springfield, Mo., Dec. 26, 27, 28, 29, and there close the season.

Bishop's (C. B.) "Strictly Business" Co.—Annistown, Ala., Dec. 27, Meridian, Miss., 28, 29.

"Black Dwarf" Co.—Reading, Pa., Dec. 26, Pottsville 27, Shenandoah 28, Shamokin 29, Danville 31.

Booth, Edwin—New York City Dec. 24, two weeks, Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 7, one week.

BOSTON THEATRE "White Slave" Co.—Gloucester, Mass., Dec. 26, Portsmouth, N. H., 27, Dover 28, Farmington 29, Lowell, Mass., 31, Newburyport Jan. 1, Lawrence 2, Nashua, N. H., 3, Keene 4, Bellows Falls, Vt., 5, Burlington 7, Rutland 8, Greenfield, Mass., 9.

Boucicault, Dion—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24, each one week, Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 1, Atlanta, Ga., 2, Augusta 4, Macon 7, Savannah 8, 9, 10, Charleston, S. C., 11, 12, Providence, R. I., 14, 15.

Boyd, Nellie—Napa, Cal., Dec. 24, Eureka 31, each one week.

Buffalo Bill Combination—Bradford, Pa., Dec. 26, Olean, N. Y., 27, Williamsport 28, Scranton 29, Philadelphia 31, one week, Trenton, N. J., Jan 7, Newark 8, Waterbury, Ct., 9, New Haven 10, Hartford 11, Providence 12.

Burgess, Nell—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 24, two weeks, Pittsburg Jan 7, one week.

"Bunch of Keys" Co. (Frank Sanger, manager)—New York City Dec. 24, one week, Holyoke, Mass., 31, Hartford, Ct., Jan. 1, Worcester, Mass., 2, New Haven, Ct., 3, 4, 5, Williamsburg, N. Y., 7, one week.

"Bunch of Keys" Co. (Dudley McAdow, manager)—Wilmington, Del., Dec. 29.

Byron, Oliver Doud—New York City Dec. 24, one week, Troy 31, Jan. 1, 2, Pittsfield, Mass., 3, Albany, N. Y., 4, 5, Cohoes 7, Rondout 8, Schenectady 9, 10, Gloversville 11, Utica 12.

Campbell's (Bartley) "Siberia" Co.—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 24, Pittsburg 31, each one week, Chicago, Ill., Jan. 7, two weeks.

Campbell's (Bartley) "White Slave" Co.—Troy, N. Y., Dec. 26, 27, Rondout 28, 29, Albany 31 to Jan. 3, Utica 4, Rome 5, Rochester 7, Philadelphia, Pa., 14, Baltimore, Md., 21, Washington, D. C., 28, each one week.

Calef, Jennie—Company disbanded recently in Defiance, O.

Chanfrau, Mr. and Mrs. F. S.—Williamsburg, N. Y., Dec. 24, Brooklyn 31, each one week, York, Pa., Jan. 7, Fredericksburg, Md., 8, Cumberland 9, Parkersburg, W. Va., 10.

Chicago Comedy Co.—Marquoketa, Ia., Dec. 26, Muscatine 27.

Choate's Comedy Co.—Varna, Ill., Dec. 24, Washburn 31, each one week.

Clifford, Edwin—Columbus, Neb., Dec. 26, 27, Grand Island 28, 29, 31, Jan. 1.

Collier's (J. W.) "Lights o' London" Cos.—(Eastern) Pittsfield, Mass., Dec. 25, Cohoes, N. Y., 27, 28, 29, Amsterdam 31, Jan. 1, Auburn 2, 3, Lyons 4, 5, Lockport 7, 8, Jamestown 9, 10, Warren, Pa., 11, 12, Dunkirk, N. Y., 14, 15, Olean 16, 17, Hornellsville 18, 19.....(Western) Louisville, Ky., Dec. 24, St. Louis, Mo., 31, each one week.....(Southern) Austin, Tex., Dec. 26, 27, 28, 29, Galveston 30, Jan. 1, 2, Houston 3, 4, 5, New Orleans, La., 7, one week, Montgomery, Ala., 14 to 17, Selma 18, 19, Nashville, Tenn., 21, one week.....(Central) Cleveland, O., Dec. 24, one week, Youngstown 31, Jan. 1, New Castle, Pa., 2, 3, Meadville 4, 5, Pittsburg 7, one week, Philadelphia 14, two weeks.

Collins, Charles—Skevinus, N. Y., Dec. 24, Andes 31, Delhi Jan. 7, Paterson, N. J., 14, each one week.

Davis (Chas. L.) "Alvin Joslin" Co.—Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 26, Janesville 27.

Daly's (Augustin) Second Co.—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 24, one week, Milwaukee, Wis., 31, Jan. 1, 2, Minneapolis, Minn., 3, 4, 5, Rock Island, Ill., 7, Bloomington 8, Springfield 9, Indianapolis, Ind., 10, 11, 12.

Davenport, Fanny—Auburn, N. Y., Dec. 26, Syracuse 27, Amsterdam 28, Troy 29, Gloversville 31, Utica Jan. 1, Ithaca 2, Binghamton 3, Elmira 4, Jamestown 5, Buffalo 7, one week.

"Devil's Auction" Co.—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24, Chicago 31, each one week.

Dowling, J. J.—See "Nobody's Claim."

Earle Combination—Portland, Ind., Dec. 24, Dunkirk 31, each one week.

Emmet, J. K.—Baltimore, Md., Dec. 24, Troy, N. Y., 31, Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 7, each one week, New York City 14, three weeks.

Evans, Lizzie, in "Fogg's Ferry"—Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 26, Leavenworth, Kas., 27, Atchison 28, Lincoln, Neb., 29, Topeka 31, Jan. 1, Junction City 2, Emporia 3, Wichita 4, 5, Wellington 7, Mansfield 8, Springfield, Mo., 14, 15.

Eytinge, Rose—Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 24, one week.

Foore, Richard—Bolivar, N. Y., Dec 27, Oil City, Pa., 28, Bradford 29, New Castle 31, Canton, O., Jan. 1, 2.

Ferguson, W. J.—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24, one week.

Florence, Mr. and Mrs. W. J.—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 24, one week, Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 3, 4, 5, Cincinnati, O., 7, Cleveland 14, each one week.

Flockton's "Flying Dutchman" Co.—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 26, 27.

Flora Moore's "Bunch of Keys" Co. (H. A. Lee, manager)—Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 24, Reading, Jan. 1, 1884.

Gardner, C. A.—Kokomo, Ind., Dec. 26, Fort Wayne 27, Coldwater, Mich., 28, Kalamazoo 29, Grand Rapids 31, Jan. 1, Lansing 2, St. Louis 3, East Saginaw 4, Bay City 5.

Gardner's "Girl I Love" Co.—Ashland, O., Dec. 26, Wooster 27, Massilon 28, Canton 29, Havana 31, Akron Jan. 1.

Goodwin, Nat—Cincinnati O., Dec 24, one week, Columbus 31, Jan. 1, 2.

Granger, Maud—Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 26.

Gray, Ada—Toronto, Ont., Dec. 24, one week, Port Hope 31, Kingston Jan. 1, Bellleville 2, Ottawa 3, 4, Prescott 5, Montreal 7, one week, Port Huron, Mich., 14, Flint 15, East Saginaw 16, Bay City 17, Grand Rapids 18, 19.

Harrison-Gourlay Co.—San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 28, five weeks.

Hanlons—New Orleans, La., Dec. 24, one week, Mobile, Ala., 31, Jan. 1, Montgomery 2, 3, Atlanta 4, 5, Macon 7, 8, Augusta 9, 10, Savannah 11, 12, Charleston, S. C., 14, 15.

Hanley's "McSorley's Inflation" Co.—Cincinnati, O., Dec. 24, St. Louis, Mo., 31, each one week.

Haverly's "Silver King" Co., No. 2—Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 24, St. Paul 31, each one week.

Haverly's "Silver King" Co., No. 3—Charleston, S. C., Dec. 26, Savannah, Ga., 27, 28, 29.

Haverly's Comedy Co.—Jackson, Tenn., Dec. 26, Nashville 28, 29, Memphis 31, Jan. 1, 2.

"Her Atonement" Co.—Cincinnati Dec. 24, St. Louis, Mo., 31, Chicago, Ill., Jan. 7, each one week, Lafayette, Ind., 14, Terre Haute 15, 16, Indianapolis 17, 18, 19, Cincinnati, O., 21, one week.

Herne's "Hearts of Oak" Co.—Columbia, Tenn., Dec. 26, Nashville 27, Evansville, Ind., 28, 29, Kansas City, Mo., 31, Jan. 1, 2, Leavenworth, Kas., 3, Atchison 4, Topeka 5.

"Hoop of Gold" Co.—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 24, Cleveland, O., 31, each one week.

Howard's (C. L.) Co.—Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 24, Newark 31, Boston, Mass., Jan. 7, each one week.

"In the Ranks" Co.—Washington, D. C., Dec., 24 two weeks.

Irving, Henry—Baltimore, Md., Dec. 24, Brooklyn, N. Y., 31, each one week, Chicago, Ill., Jan. 7, two weeks, St. Louis, Mo., 21, Cincinnati, O., 28, each one week.

Janauschek—Woonsocket, R. I., Dec. 26, Providence 27, 28, 29, Worcester, Mass., 31, Milford Jan. 1, Springfield 2, Hartford, Ct., 3, New Haven 4, 5.

Jefferson, Joseph—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24, Baltimore, Md., 31, Washington, D. C., Jan. 7, each one week, Wilmington, N. C., 14, Charleston 15, 16, 17, Savannah 18, 19.

"Jesse James" Co.—Baltimore, Md., Dec 24, one week, Eastern Pennsylvania Circuit 31, two weeks, New England Circuit Jan. 14, one week.

Kendall Comedy Co.—Kearney, Neb., Dec. 26.

Keene, T. W.—Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 26, Oswego 27.

Kiralfys' "Black Crook" Co.—Cincinnati, O., Dec. 24, one week.

Knight, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S.—Trenton, N. J., Dec. 26, Easton, Pa., 27, Newark, N. J., 28, 29.

Lacy's (Harry) "Planter's Wife Co.—Montreal Ont., Dec. 31, New York City Jan. 7, each one week.

Langtry, Mrs.—Petersburg, Va., Dec. 26, Richmond 27, 28, 29, Newark, N. J., 31, Rondout, N. Y., Jan. 1, Troy 2, Jersey City, N. J., 3, 4, 5, New York City 7, three weeks.

Lewis, Jeffreys—San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 24, one week.

Little, J. Z.—Akron, O., Dec. 26, Mansfield 27, Springfield 28, 29.

Madison-square Theatre Cos.—("Young Mrs. Winthrop," E. M. Roberts, manager)—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24, one week. ("Rajah")—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 24, one week. ("Esmeralda," No. 1)—Boston, Mass., Dec. 24, two weeks. ("Esmeralda," No. 2)—Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 26, Council Bluffs, Ia., 27, Sioux City 28, Le Mars 29, Webster 31, Des Moines Jan. 1, Ottumwa 2.

Maguinness, Dan—Providence, R. I., Dec. 26.

Mansfield's "Parisian Romance" Co.—Albany, N. Y., Dec. 26, Buffalo 27, 28, 29, Louisville, Ky., 31, Cincinnati, O., Jan. 7, St. Louis, Mo., 14, Chicago, Ill., 21, each one week.

Maskell, Nellie—Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 14, St. Paul 21, each one week.

Mather, Margaret—Lockport, N. Y., Dec. 26, Oswego 27, Utica 28, Syracuse 29, Brooklyn 31, one week.

Maddern, Minnie—New Orleans, La., Dec. 24, one week, Houston, Tex., Jan. 1, 2, San Antonio 3, 4, 5, Austin 7, 8, Brenham 9, Galveston 10, 11, 12.

Mayo, Frank—New Bedford, Mass., Dec. 26, Lawrence 27, Brockton 28, Fall River 29, Providence, R. I., 31, one week.

McAllister, Phosa—Muscatine, Ia., Dec. 24, Burlington 27, 28, 29, Mt. Pleasant 31, Jan. 1, 2, Ottumwa 3, Oskaloosa 4, 5.

McAuley, Barney—Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 31, Jan. 1, Cortland 2, Waverly 3, Pittston, Pa., 4, Wilkesbarre 5, Williamsport 7, 8, Shamokin 9, Scranton 11, 12, Bethlehem 14, Allentown 15, Mauch Chunk 16, Pottsville 17, Harrisburg 18, 19, Pittsburg 21, one week.

McCullough, John—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 24, Boston, Mass., Jan. 7, each two weeks.

McWade, Robert—Lincoln, Ill., Dec. 27, Jacksonville 28, Springfield 29.

Mestayer's Tourists (A. S. Pennoyer, manager)—Providence, R. I., Dec. 26, Worcester, Mass., 27, Springfield 28, Holyoke 29, New York City 31, one week.

Mestayer's Tourists (H. W. Brown, manager)—St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 26, Dubuque, Ia., 27, 28, 29.

Mills (Geo. C.) Co.—Eau Claire, Wis., Dec. 26, Madison 27, Beloit 28, Freeport, Ill., 29, Sterling 31, Jan. 1, Aurora 2, Pontiac 3, Bloomington 4, 5, Peoria 7, 8, Jacksonville 11, Decatur 14.

Mitchell, Maggie—Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 24, one week.

Modjeska, Mme.—Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 26, New Orleans, La., 31, two weeks.

Moore, Bella—Marietta, O., Dec. 26, Washington, Pa., 31, McKeesport Jan. 2, Connellsville 3.

Morris' (Mr. and Mrs. Dan) "Shiel Agar" Co.—Baton Rouge, La., Dec. 26, 27, Shreveport 28, 29, Marshall 31, Jan. 1, Jefferson 2, Greenville 5, Sherman 4, 5.

Morris, Clara—Detroit, Mich., Jan. 14, one week.

Mountcastle, Fanny—Freehold, N. J., Dec. 26, Mt. Holly 27, Bridgeton 28, Millville 29, Vineland 31, Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 1, Alexandria, Va., 2, Gordonsville 3, Petersburg 4, Suffolk 5.

Murphy, Joseph—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24, one week, Kansas City 31, Jan. 1, 2, Topeka, Kas., 3, Leavenworth 4, St Joseph, Mo., 5.

"Mountain Pink" Co.—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 24, one week, Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 1, 2, Eau Claire, Wis., 3, Chippewa Falls 4, Stillwater, Minn., 5, St. Paul 7, 8, 9.

Murray-Ober Comedy Co.—Jackson, O., Dec. 26, Athens 27, 28, 29, Parkersburg, W. Va., Jan. 1.

Neff's (R. A.) Chicago Comedy Co.—Beloit, Kas., Dec 24, one week.

Nobles, Milton—Shreveport, La., Dec. 26, 27, Marshall, Tex., 28, Jefferson 29, Texarkana 31, Paris Jan. 1, Bonham 2, Sherman 3, Denison 4, Gainesville 5, Dallas 7, 8, Fort Worth 9, 10, Waco 11, 12, Austin 14, 15, San Antonio 16, 17.

"Nobody's Claim" Co. (J. S. Alexander, manager)—Elgin, Ill., Dec. 26, Joliet 27, Bloomington 28, Decatur 29, St. Louis, Mo., 31, one week.

Nugent's Metropolitans—Seneca Falls, N. Y., Dec. 24, Waterloo 31, each one week.

"Only a Farmer's Daughter—Winnipeg, Ma., Dec. 26 to 29, Fargo, Dak., Dec. 31, Jan. 1, Moorhead, Minn., 2, Jamestown, Dak., 3, Bismark 4, 5, Wahfeton 7, Morris, Minn., 8, Alexandria 9, Sand Creek 10, Brainerd 11, 12, Duluth 14 to 17, Minneapolis 18, 19.

Owens, John E.—Northampton, Mass., Dec. 26, Holyoke 27, Meriden Ct., 28, Worcester, Mass., 29, Hartford, Ct., 31, New Haven Jan. 1, Ansonia 2,

Winnett & Fagan's Triality Co.—Montreal, Ont., Dec. 24, one week.

MINSTRELS.

Barlow, Wilson & Co's.—Oswego, N. Y., Dec. 27, Elmira 28, Binghamton 29, Rochester 31, Jan. 1, Buffalo 2, 3, Lockport 4, Syracuse 5, Albany 7, Little Falls 9, Troy 10, Schenectady 11, Cohoes 12.

Baird's Mammoth—Lock Haven, Pa., Dec. 26, Tyrone 27, Phillipsburg 28, Hollidaysburg 29, Altoona 31, Johnstown Jan. 1, Greensburg 2, Connellsville 3, Uniontown 4, McKeesport 5.

Baird's New—Georgetown, Ky., Dec. 27, Versailles 28, Frankfort 29, Paris 31, Maysville Jan. 1, Cynthiana 2, Richmond 3, Stanford 4, Danville 5.

Callender's (Wm. Welch, manager)—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 24, Philadelphia, Pa., 31, Cincinnati, O., Jan. 7, each one week.

Callender's Georgia—Lafayette, Ind., Dec. 26, Kokomo 27, Richmond 28, Xenia, O., 29.

Haverly's Mastodons—Portsmouth, N. H., Dec. 31, Portland, Me., Jan. 1, Manchester, N. H., 2, Lawrence, Mass., 3, Lowell 4, Lynn 5, Salem 7, New Bedford 8, Fall River 9, Newport, R. I., 10, Providence 11, 12, Worcester, Mass., 14.

Haverly's New—Winston, N. C., Dec. 27, Raleigh 28, Lynchburg, Va., 29.

Henry's, Hi—Dupont, Ill., Dec. 26, Belleville 27.

Leavitt's (M. B.) Gigantean—Norfolk, Va., Dec. 26, Petersburg 27, Lynchburg 28, Danville 29.

Merkley's, Harry—Enosburg, Vt., Dec. 26, Richford 27, North Troy 28, Newport 29, Cowansville, Ont., 31.

Thatcher, Primrose & West's—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 31, one week.

Whitmore & Clark's—Cambridge, N. Y., Dec. 26, Salem 27.

CIRCUSES.

Cole's, W. W.—Season closed Dec. 25 in Holly Springs, Miss. Gone into Winter-quarters in St. Louis, Mo.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Bartholomew's (Prof. George) Equine Paradox—Norristown, Pa., Dec. 24, Wilmington, Del., 31, Orange, N. J., Jan. 7, Trenton 14, Camden 21, Paterson 28, Allentown, Pa., Feb. 4, Harrisburg 11, Lancaster 18, Providence, R. I., 25, Lynn, Mass., March 3, Salem 10, each one week.

Carver's (Dr.) Co.—Macon, Ga., Dec. 26, 27, 28, Columbus 31, Jan. 1, Montgomery, Ala., 2, 3, 4, Selma 5, 7, 8, Mobile 10, New Orleans, La., 11 to 19.

Howorth's "Hibernica"—Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 26, Bordentown 27, Burlington 28, Trenton 29, Mt. Holly 31, Millville Jan. 1.

Jacobs' Royal Museum Novelty Company—Troy, N. Y., Dec. 24, one week, Horticultural Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., 31, three weeks.

La Cardo, Signor—Ashtabula, O., Dec. 26, 27, 28.

Livermore, Mrs.—Cadiz, O., Jan. 1.

Royal Marionettes—Beaumont, Tex., Dec. 27, Orange 28, Houston 29, 31.

Taylor, E. C.—Athol, Mass. Dec. 26, 27, 28, Orange 29, 31, Jan. 1, 2.

SUPPLEMENTARY ROUTES AHEAD.

(RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.)

Abbey's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co.—South Berwick, Me., Dec. 26, Great Falls 27, Rochester, N. H. 28, Dover 29, Exeter 31.

Atkinson's Comedy Co. in "Peck's Bad Boy"—Lowell, Mass., Jan. 3, New Bedford 4, Taunton 5, Chelsea 7, Waltham 8, Fitchburg 9, Keene 10, North Adams 11.

Buchanan Comedy Co.—Huron Dec. 24, one week.

"Bunch of Keys" Co. (Dudley McAdow, manager)—Trenton, N. J., Dec. 31, Reading, Pa., Jan. 1, Paterson, N. J., 4, 5.

Claxton, Kate—Allentown, Pa., Dec. 26, Lancaster 29, New York City 31, one week, Troy Jan. 7, 8, 9.

"Fun on the Bristol" Combination.—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 31, one week.

Girard Gyer English Novelty Co.—Boston, Mass., Dec. 24, Brooklyn, N. Y., 31, each one week.

Goodrich, Eunice—Belton, Tex., Dec. 26, 27, Lampasas 28, 29, Temple 31, Cleburne Jan. 1, Weatherford 2, McKinney 3.

Granger, Maude (later route)—Cleveland, O., Dec. 31, one week.

Goodwin's (Frank) "Moths" Co.—Fort Scott, Kas., Dec. 31, Atchison Jan. 1, Leavenworth 2.

Guinness' (Chas. M.) "East and West Lynne" Co.—Greensburg, Pa., Dec. 26, Irwin 27, 28, Connellsville 29.

Haverly's "Silver King" Co., No. 1—Cleveland, O., Dec. 24, Toledo 31, Detroit, Mich., Jan. 7, St. Louis, Mo., 14, each one week.

Haverly's "Silver King" Co., No. 3 (later route)—Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 31, Jan. 1, Pensacola 2, 3, Mobile, Ala., 4, 5, New Orleans, La., 7, one week.

Kiralfys' "Excelsior" Co.—Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 24, one week.

Kernells, Wheatley & Traynor's Combination (later route)—Jersey City, N. Y., Dec. 31, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Jan. 1, Newburg 2, Waterbury, Ct., 3, New Haven 4, Providence, R. I., 5, Boston, Mass., 7, one week.

Keene, T. W.—Owego, N. Y., Dec. 27, Syracuse 28, 29.

Madison-square Theatre Co. in "Hazel Kirke" (Chas. A. Haslam, manager)—New York City Dec. 24, Philadelphia, Pa., 31, each one week, Norfolk, Va., Jan. 7, Richmond 8, 9, Petersburg 10, Charleston, S. C., 11, 12, Savannah, Ga., 14, 15, Augusta 16, Macon 17, Atlanta 18, 19, Columbus 21, Eufaula, Ala., 22, Selma 23, Montgomery 24 Mobile 25, 26

Mather, Margaret (corrected route)—Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 24, one week, Batavia 31, Lockport Jan. 1, Utica 2, Oswego 3, Syracuse 4, 5, Brooklyn 7, Providence, R. I., 14, Philadelphia, Pa., 21, each one week.

Maguinness, Dan. (later route)—Putnam, Ct., Dec. 27, Woonsocket, R. I., 28, Southbridge, Mass., 29, Webster 31, Waterbury, Ct., Jan. 1, Stamford 2, Winsted 3, Ansonia 4, Bridgeport 5.

Manchester & Jennings' Specialty Co. (corrected route)—Erie, Pa., Dec. 28, Youngstown, O., 29, Buffalo, N. Y., 31, Cleveland, O., Jan. 7, Cincinnati 13, each one week.

McWade, Robert (later route)—Elgin, Ill., Dec. 31, Rockford Jan. 1, Pullman 3.

Mestayer & Barton's "Hix's Fix" Co.—Columbia, Pa., Dec. 28, Harrisville 29, Washington, D. C., 31, one week.

Morris, Clara—Galveston, Tex., Dec. 27, 28, 29, Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 3, 4, 5.

Palmer's (Chas. B.) Dramatic Co.—Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 26, Greencastle 27, Muncie 29

Palmer & Daly's "Vacation" Co.—Milford, Mass., Dec. 27, Clinton 28, Fitchburg 29, Marlboro 30.

Prescott, Marie (corrected route)—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 24, one week.

Rentfrew's Jolly Pathfinders—Portsmouth, O., Dec. 26, Jackson 27, Logan 28.

Rice's Travestie Co.—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 31, Jan. 1, 2.

Spaulding's Bellringers (later route)—Swanton, Vt., Jan. 3, Champlain, N. Y., 4, Malone 5, Potsdam 7, Canton 8, Gouverneur 9.

Stetson's "Confusion" Co., No. 1—Boston, Mass., Dec. 24, Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 7, each two weeks.

Stetson's "Confusion" Co., No. 2—Chelsea, Mass., Dec. 26, Haverhill 27, Gloucester 28, Lawrence 29

White's "Risen from the Ashes" Co.—Mason City, Ill., Dec. 26, Havana 27, 28, 29.

Williams, Gus (later route)—Providence, R. I., Dec. 31, one week.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—*At next week's* CLIPPER *will not be issued until Thursday morning, correspondents can send supplementary telegrams as to Tuesday night, Jan. 1, if anything of sufficient importance happens after their regular letters and dispatches are sent.*

NEW YORK.

New York City.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.—Christmas shopping interfered with amusements generally, and matters were made worse by the heavy snowstorms that impeded travel; but, as the week before Christmas is known to managers as one of the worst in the theatrical calendar, they bore their misfortunes with calmness and fortitude, more especially because they expect to reap a harvest this week.....The Princess Chuck" was withdrawn at the New Park Theatre Dec. 22, and Morris & Knowles retired from its management. John A. Stevens as proprietor and Frank B. Murtha as manager took possession of it Dec. 24 and produced "Passion's Slave."..."7-20-8" was hilariously greeted at Daly's Theatre....The troubles of "An American Wife," the new play reviewed elsewhere, interested the patrons of Wallack's.....The Rajah" was reproduced at the Madison-square Theatre.....Fedora" closed its successful run at the Fourteenth-street Theatre....."Storm-beaten" did a fair business at the Union-square Theatre....."Cordelia's Aspirations" continued to excite mirth at the Theatre Comique...W. J. Scanlan in "Friend and Foe" was the attraction at the Grand Opera-house, and was fairly patronized..."The Pavements of Paris," fully discussed in another column, was produced at Niblo's Garden..At the Star Theatre Edwin Booth was seen in "Hamlet" Dec. 17, 18, and matinee 22, and in "The Fool's Revenge" 19, 20, 21. W. E. Sheridan played in "Louis XI" 22, Booth not appearing.....Janauschek was the star at the Rankins' Third-avenue Theatre....."The Glass of Fashion" drew fairly well at Stetson's Fifth-avenue Theatre.....Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels did a fair business at the People's Theatre..... Frank Mayo gave the patrons of the Mt. Morris Theatre his well-matured idea of Davy Crockett.....The chief attraction at the Metropolitan Opera-house was an opera new to Americans. Its story is told in another column, wherein its musical features are ably treated of.

THERE was a meagre attendance at Niblo's Garden Dec. 24, due to the fact that it was Christmas-eve and not to any lack of appreciation of "The Pavements of Paris." At the Christmas-matinee business was light compared with what it should have been, as was also the case at almost every other theatre in town.

THE THEATRE COMIQUE also felt on the night of Dec. 24 the influence Christmas-eve can exercise on attendance. There was a good house at the Christmas-matinee, yet "Cordelia's Aspirations" was enjoyed by fewer people than have ever before been within the walls of this population theatre on a Christmas-day. There was a let-down in attendance at nearly all our theatres.

THE EXAMINATION in the case of Edward G. Gilmore of Niblo's Garden against the Kiralfys for an accounting as to "Excelsior" on the road was adjourned from Dec. 24 to Jan. 10.

JEAN B. GRANGER, manager of the Dramatic Garden, Houston street, was found guilty Dec. 20 of giving exhibitions without a license, and was fined $150. Not having the cash, he was sent to the Tombs.

A FLOATING THEATRE.—A stock company is being formed to give theatrical performances upon the waters adjacent to this city. The experiment has been tried here before, even as far back as 1844-5, and proved a failure.

JOHN MCCULLOUGH was in town last week.

"THE PAVEMENTS OF PARIS," a drama in four acts by Adolphe Belot, originally acted at the Porte St. Martin, Paris, April 14 last, was seen for the first time in America in Niblo's Garden Tuesday night, Dec. 18. The representation was somewhat unsatisfactory, owing to the incomplete working of some of the mechanical effects; but later in the week these imperfections were remedied. It is an old-fashioned melodrama depicting life among the lower classes in Paris, and introducing crowds of costermongers, ragpickers, street-sweepers, a few policemen, etc., which serve as pegs upon which to hang views of curious localities in modern Paris. The story that serves as a thread to join these tableaux together is very old, and far from being original. We published it shortly after the original production of the piece. In Paris a great mechanical scene was chiefly relied upon for success, and that has not been reproduced here so completely as it might have been. All of the scenery used here was new, the views worthy of special mention being the interior of the Western R. R. station, the Market and Post of St. Eustache, the Ragpickers' Paradise on the Boulevard de la Revolte, the diorama of the rooms in an apartment-house from garret to cellar, the Depot of the Eastern R. R. and Mme. De Launay's Salon in the Rue Varennes. In the last-named were two visions, entitled "Peace" and "War," which were very effective, but were entirely out of place. If, instead of being presented in the last act, when they were a thrice-told tale to the audience, they had been given in a prologue, the interest of the piece would have been greatly enhanced, because they depicted events in the early life of the heroine which had been recited by some of the characters more than once before they were seen. The drama is so loosely constructed that it virtually ends with the ante-climax at the close of the first act, it being very clear then what the denouement is going to be. Although the cast contains thirty-two characters, all save eight or ten are nonentities, and none affords any great scope for acting. Harold Fosberg made all that was possible out of the role of a nobleman who had been reduced by gambling to the position of a swindler and would-be murderer; but the possibilities were small. C. G. Craig was quite efficient as the soldier who saved the life of Little Marie on the battle-field, and took her to his parents' home, who in after years again meets and rescues her from danger in the streets of Paris, again gives her a home, and at length finds her mother and makes Marie his wife. John Jack as an intelligence-office keeper and Felix Morris as a Lorraine peasant did some excellent eccentric acting, and while they were on the stage they were the life of the piece, which but for the merriment they created would have been dull indeed. Sallie Williams deserves warm praise for her natural and careful portrayal of the heroine, Marie. It is probably the most important role she has yet been trusted with, as she is young both in her profession and in years, but she gives great promise for the future. The others who deserve favorable mention are J. Marshall, O. B. Collins, M. St. John, Kate Meek, Mrs. L. Daniels, Mrs. F. Williams and Mme. Michels. During the fete in Ragpickers' Paradise the Guards were seen in a Clodoche dance to such good advantage that they were rewarded with a double encore. The attendance has been only moderately good, notwithstanding the resumption of popular prices—$1, 75 cents, 50 cents and 25 cents. The full cast is appended for future reference:

Vicomte De Flachon	H. Fosberg
Maurice Peronne	C. G. Craig
Fusch	Felix Morris
M. Bonneau	John Jack
Baron De Gerlin	J. Marshall
Boulade	O. B. Collins
Loubinot	Logan Paul
Dirty Dan	M. St. John
Raffiard	A. Wilson
Beauteous Blackbird	C. Leighton
Father Franck	A. A. Mellon
Pitou	Walter Reynolds
Inspector of Police	A. J. Spencer
Superintendent	J. Mortimer
Soldier	D. Archibald
Janitor	E. Barbour
Peasant	F. Barker
Captain of Police	T. Atkins
Conductor	J. Smyth
Paul Merey	Master De Forrest
Mme. De Launay	Kate Meek
Marie	Miss S. Williams
Mme. Bellegentier	Miss L. Daniels
Mme. Peronne	Mrs. F. Williams
Mother Black	Mme. I. C. Michels
Mme. Franck	Miss G. Hathaway
Mme. Chauffat	Miss F. Wood
Mlle. Blanche	Miss A. Russell
Fortense	Miss R. Thorne
Waiting-maid	Miss Egerton
Celestine	Miss Clare
Little Marie	Miss B. Fernandez

"AN AMERICAN WIFE," a drama in four acts by Judge George C. Barrett, was originally acted in Wallack's Theatre Tuesday night, Dec. 18, before a good-sized audience, which gave it patient attention. Although it cannot be said to have achieved complete success, still it contains much that is interesting, and the dialogue is exceedingly well written. It is the author's first attempt at playwriting, and naturally displays many faults, which experience would eliminate from future productions from his pen. The most prominent of these are prolixity of dialogue, a tendency to overindulgence in patriotic utterances, the inability to successfully handle a number of characters that are before the audience at the same time, and the endeavor to teach the moral of the drama by set speeches rather than by its action. The motive of the drama is divorce, or rather the relation of man and wife before the law. The heroine, an American, had married in her youth the Count of Beaumar, and by him had been taken to France. He treated her brutally, and she returned to this country, bringing her son with her. At the opening of the piece Col. Gordon Lindsay, a young lawyer, offers Mme. Edna De Beaumar his love, which is reciprocated. He proffers his services in aiding her to obtain a divorce. M. De Beaumar arrives from France to reclaim his wife and get possession of her fortune. It speedily appears that Edna cannot demand a separation, because her husband's brutality has never reached the point of physical violence. She then hopes to obtain a divorce because she has in her possession letters which she firmly believes were written by her husband to a young American girl; but the lawyer finds that he cannot legally prove that the letters were written by M. De Beaumar. Her husband then takes passage for himself and his wife on a French steamship, and commands her, in the name of the French law, to follow him; otherwise he will carry away her child. The young girl to whom Beaumar's letters were addressed now unexpectedly turns up, and it is learned that he had betrayed her by a false marriage. Beaumar's accomplice confesses the crime, the needed evidence for a divorce is obtained, and Beaumar is outwitted. The action of the piece occupies two days and takes place during the first act in the grounds of Mr. Garner's villa, which has a view of the Hudson; in the second act, in a drawing-room in the villa there, a moonlight view of the river being presented; and in the last two acts, in the library. We append the cast:

John Garner	John Gilbert
Colonel Lindsay	O. Tearle
De Beaumar	G. Eyre
Rush Lightfoot	C. Glenny
Frank Adcap	J. C. Buckstone
Tom	C. E. Edwin
A Telegraph Boy	Carrie Elberta
Paul De Beaumar, aged six,	May Germon
Edna De Beaumar	Rose Coghlan
Mrs. John Garner	Mme. Ponisi
Flora Garner	Adela Measor
Jessie	Helen Russell

The acting was good, although by no means brilliant, Miss Coghlan, Mme. Ponisi, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Tearle, Mr. Eyre and Mr. Glenny particularly distinguishing themselves.

"LA GIOCONDA," Ponchielli's opera, received its first production in this country at the Metropolitan Opera-house Dec. 21. The work, which has been once remodeled, has been heard in Italy frequently during the past seven years, and has always been a favorite there. In London, Eng., it was given May 31, this year, and was handsomely received, and it has duplicated that success here, and made quite an impression by its melodic beauty and dramatic strength. The composer is thoroughly Italian in the form and tunefulness of his score, both in the airs and the concerted music, and he appears to have followed in the line of Verdi's later works, such as "Aida," in his expression of interesting dramatic scenes. Boito's "Mefistofele" may be mentioned as an example of this later-day Italian style, in which there are evidences of the German influence in the elaborate orchestral work, and in other respects. "Gioconda" is after this form, except that it has more of graceful, flowing melody and catching numbers, and that, while considerable prominence is given to the orchestral score, it is on the vocal part and its masterly adaptation to the illustration of the scene that the success mainly depends. It seems, in fact, to be a kind of compromise between the severe German style and the sweetish melodies and flimsy accompaniments of many of the favorite Italian operas which have held the stage for years. The libretto was written by the poet and composer Arrigo Boito, who has taken the incidents from one of Victor Hugo's dramas, "Angelo, le Tyran de Padoue;" and, although some of the details are repelling, he has furnished a story of considerable power, full of interest, and with several situations of striking dramatic force. It is certainly to this strong aid that the composer, who seems to have written in full harmony with the scenes, is much indebted for his immediate success. The work was received here with considerable enthusiasm, and numerous encores were demanded; and it is not surprising that a score which fits the drama admirably, which is full of charming and expressive music, should here and elsewhere have met with popular favor. There are several numbers which will take with the public as song arias, but the work will be best remembered as a whole, and for its strong dramatic force and able musical illustration.

The action takes place in the Seventeenth Century. La Gioconda is a street ballad-singer in love with Enzo, Prince of Santa Flor, who is deeply in love with Laura, to whom he was at one time betrothed, but who has been compelled to marry Alvise Badoero chief of the Council of Ten. Barnaba, a spy of the Council, is in love with La Gioconda, who spurns his advances. In act I the scene is the grand courtyard of the Ducal Palace, decorated for festivities. The stage is filled with holiday folks. Barnaba observes La Gioconda, who brings her blind mother to her usual seat near the church, and then departs, repulsing Barnaba, who, believing that by getting La Cieca into his power he may win La Gioconda, denounces her mother as a sorceress. The populace threaten to kill her, when Enzo arrives and protects her. Alvise and Laura enter. La Cieca is freed through the intercession of Laura, on whom the blind woman bestows her rosary. Enzo and Laura recognize each other, and their glances are watched by Barnaba. When left alone with Enzo he tells him that Laura shall be on board his ship, the Hecate, at nightfall, during her husband's absence. Enzo departs and Barnaba dictates a letter warning Alvise that Laura is about to elope with Enzo. Gioconda, listening, is overwhelmed at Enzo's perfidy, and her lamentations blend with the vesper hymn, sung by the monks and people. Act II takes place on board Enzo's vessel and on the bank of the Fusina Lagoon. The sailors are carousing. Barnaba arrives with Isepo, both disguised as fishermen, and the spy dispatches Isepo to summon three war galleys. He then departs; Enzo comes on deck, and Laura presently arrives. The reunited lovers determine to set sail during the night; Enzo goes below to complete his preparations and Laura prays for aid. Gioconda rushes upon her, and is about to slay her, but on Laura lifting up the rosary remembers it was the grateful gift of La Cieca, gives her own mask to Laura, calls up two boatmen, and sends Laura away in safety before the arrival of Alvise and Barnaba. The ship is set on fire by Enzo as the curtain falls. Act III opens on the following night in Alvise's residence. He has resolved to poison Laura, and when she comes, at his summons, he tells her she must drink the vial of poison he places on the table before the last note shall be sung of a serenata which is being chanted by some passing gondoliers. He no sooner quits the room than Gioconda enters. She brings a flask containing a powerful narcotic; makes Laura drink it; pours into the empty flask the poison in the vial and departs. Alvise enters; finds the vial empty, and believes his revenge complete. The scene changes to a grand fete, in which the ballet of "The Hours" is introduced. Barnaba drags in La Cieca, whom he has found in one of the apartments. She declares that she was "praying for her just dead," and the guests are dismayed. Enzo, who has learned from Barnaba that it is Laura who lies dead, throws off his mask, denounces Alvise, and is seized by the guards. Gioconda promises Barnaba to become his if he will obtain Enzo's liberty, and he accepts this compact. The grand finale is brought to a close by Alvise opening the curtain of the funeral chamber and showing Laura extended on her bier. He avows that he has taken her life to avenge his outraged honor. In Act IV the sleeping Laura is brought to the dwelling of Gioconda, who meditates suicide; then is tempted to destroy her rival. While she is hesitating Enzo arrives, grateful to her for his freedom, but resolved to end his life. Laura, waking from her trance, calls out "Enzo!" and presently comes from behind the screen which had concealed her. The lovers offer grateful thanks to their deliverer, and escape in a boat provided by her. Left alone, Gioconda remembers her compact with Barnaba, and resolves to fly. She prays for deliverance, and her prayer is overheard, through the half-open door, by Barnaba, who confronts her. Summoning all her courage, she tells him gayly that she means to keep her word, but must put on her gayest ornaments to do him honor, and while adorning herself seizes a dagger, with which she stabs herself to the heart, saying: "I have sworn to be thine. Take me, I am thine!" As she dies, he, in his anger, hisses into her ear that he has strangled La Cieca, her mother, and the curtain falls upon a scene full of tragic interest.

The cast embraced Mme. Fursch-Madi as Laura, Mme. Scalchi as La Cieca, Sig. Stagno as Enzo, Sig. Del Puente as Barnaba, Sig. Novara as Alvise Badoero, Sig. Augier as Zuane, Sig. Grazzi as Isepo and Christine Nilsson as La Gioconda. Nilsson acted the role with fine dramatic intelligence, and her last tragic scene especially was given with so much intensity that it aroused the most enthusiastic applause. Yet she has been better fitted with a role that requires less of melodramatic strength. Her method appears small, especially in comparison with Fursch-Madi, who filled the dramatic requirements admirably, and who gave in broader style and with excellent vocal effect the most powerful impersonation of the opera. Mme. Scalchi's noble contralto voice was heard effectively in her one opportunity, a long romanza in the first act, and which was one of the chief gems of the opera. Del Puente made a decided success of the Iago-like villain's role, personating it with a great deal of dramatic skill and in excellent vocal form. Novara acted and sang in his usual acceptable manner. Stagno, with his peculiar tenor voice, attempted to do his best to catch the applause, but he was no more than fairly acceptable, if that. He acted the role in much the same fashion as any other part in which he has appeared, and his rough voice, with its small burlesque head-notes, did not add pleasingly to the vocal effect. There is some charming ballet-music in the third act, and Mme. Cavalazzi was, as usual, the recipient of a large share of applause for her graceful dancing. The performance went off with the happiest effect for a first night, and the audience was not satisfied until they had brought Sig. Vianesi, the leader, and Manager Abbey before the footlights. The scenic setting was excellent, and the demand for effective pictures, especially in the ship-scene, was carried out in very artistic form. "La Traviati" was on 21 cast as before; "La Gioconda" was repeated at the matinee 22 and "Rigoletto" 24, closing the season for the present. The company goes to Boston, and reappears here Jan. 9, 1884. A concert was given Sunday evening, 23, Rossini's "Stabat Mater" being the chief feature of the bill, with Mme. Fursch-Madi, Sig. Campanini, Sig. Grazzi and Mme. Scalchi as the soloists. Capoul, Kaschmann and Vergara were in the miscellaneous part.

THE BENEFIT for the sufferers by the Standard Theatre fire is to take place Thursday afternoon, Dec. 27, in Wallack's Theatre, and it is to be hoped that it will be liberally attended. The announced attractions are a recitation of "The Little Hero" by W. E. Sheridan, McCaull's Opera Co. in the second act of "The Beggar Student," a Madison-square Theatre Co. in the second act of "Hazel Kirke," Rice's Surprise Party in the second act of "Pop," "Hurry, Little Children," by a portion of Harrigan & Hart's Co., a recitation by Lizzie Harold, a portion of "A Bunch of Keys" by Frank Sanger's Co., Tony Pastor's Co., Callender's Minstrels, songs by Marie Vanoni, Digby Bell, Harry Pepper, Willie S. Rising, Herbert Wilke and Miss Amy Gordon, and specialties by Ella Wesner, Sam Devere, Harry Watson, Miss Alice Hutchins and E. D. Davies.

AT MINER'S PEOPLE'S THEATRE the attraction on Dec. 24 was Edouin & Sanger's Sparks Combination in Charles H. Hoyt's laughable conglomoration "A Bunch of Keys," which the company have advantageously worked up since it was first seen in this city, having introduced the song-and-dance "Hurry, Little Children, Sunday Morn," in conjunction with other Brahamite melodies selected from Harrigan & Hart's latest successes. There was a three-quarter house, and almost incessant laughter greeted the impersonations of Snaggs, Grimes and Teddy Keys, respectively by Charles W. Bowser, Eugene Canfield and Miss Lena Merville. The clever dancing of little Marietta Nash as Dolly Dobbs was received with marked favor, and the vocal duet and double-dance by Anna Gunther and Anna Brevoor was accorded a double encore. "A Bunch of Keys" will fill out the week, and on Dec. 31 Kate Claxton and her "Two Orphans" Combination will begin an engagement. On 27 Manager Kidder is to distribute souvenirs among the audience in commemorationof the one hundredth night of this theatre. The People's had about the best house of all our regular theatres on Christmas-afternoon. The parquet was nearly two-thirds full, and the upper portions almost wholly occupied. There was a crush in the gallery, there being 750 by actual count of the box.

THE ACTORS' FUND.—A meeting of the trustees was held Dec. 20. The report of the secretary showed that the expenditures for the month of November amounted to $1,801.76, of which $1,206.83 was distributed to sick and needy professionals in the form of relief, and $364.60 was paid for funeral expenses, the rest being expended for salary of the assistant secretary and incidental expenses. Theodore Moss resigned his position as treasurer of the fund, and Sheridan Shook was elected treasurer. Samuel Colville was elected a trustee in place of P. T. Barnum. At a meeting of the executive committee, subsequently held, allowances were made to several sick actors who applied for relief. The widow of a minstrel who died recently in San Francisco sent a pitiful letter, asking that she might be helped to get from there to her home in Burlington, Iowa, and the committee ordered the secretary to procure her a ticket.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS when placed in the dome of a theatre need more watching than when they are on the sidewalk. In the dome of Harry Miner's Theatre in the Bowery there is a chandelier composed of a number of Edison's horseshoe-lights, inclosed in little glass globes. During the past week some of the globes fell, and an investigation proved that the rubber insulators had been fused by the electric current, and that the woodwork near the chandelier had been charred.

"THREE OF A KIND," Edward E. Kidder's new play, is to receive its first representation in this city on Dec. 31 at the Third-avenue Theatre. It was successful in St. Louis, where the press praised it. This gave the Cincinnati newspapers, always on the lookout for a chance to run counter to anything St. Louis or Chicago thinks well of, an opportunity for a "freeze-out" by playing it to beat only "two pair," whereas St. Louis had agreed that it was better than a "straight." This city will probably fix its value by determining whether audiences will stand a repetition or vote that one (night) of that "Kind" is enough.

J. H. HAVERLY has fitted up handsome offices at 18 West Twenty-third street, which are to be known as Haverly's International Amusement Exchange.

ROBERT CUMMINGS, one of the supers playing in "The Pavements of Paris" at Niblo's Garden, was seriously injured by carelessly handling a loaded property-gun Dec. 22, part of his thigh being blown off.

THE THALIA THEATRE is to bring out a novelty on the night of Dec. 27 in the German opera of "Afrika Reise," by Von Suppe.

HUGHEY DOUGHERTY, who, as an extra attraction, opened with Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels at the People's Theatre Dec. 17, did not appear after the matinee of 19.

"THE LAST DAYS OF POMPEII" is an underlining at one of our theatres devoted to combinations. There is some curiosity to learn what combination proposes to handle this drama, one of the stock-plays at the old Bowery Theatre in Tom Hamblin's time, with Hamblin himself as Arbaces, Charlotte Cushman and Mrs. McClure at various times as Saga, William Hield and David Ingersoll as the dying gladiator, and Charles R. Thorne and Peter Richings as Glaucus, and which play has rarely been seen elsewhere in town than at the old Bowery Theatre, where, after Hamblin's death, Edward Eddy and R. Johnston were Arbaces and Lydon. Of the original cast, embracing something like twenty people, old and young, there is now not one on the stage, and only two—Thorne and Mrs. McClure, mother of Rachel Noah—are living.

R. M. FIELD of the Boston Museum paid the city a flying visit the past week.

"HAZEL KIRKE" was acted for the first time in the Grand Opera-house Dec. 24, when there were many vacant chairs noticeable on the lower floor and in the first tier. The cast is appended for future reference: Dunstan Kirke, C. W. Coulcock; Mercy Kirke, Mrs. E. L. Davenport; Hazel Kirke, Miss Georgia Cayvan; Aaron Rodney, W. H. Crompton; Dolly Dutton, Miss Ada Gilman; Arthur Carringford, J. G. Grahame; Emily Carringford, Miss Cecile Rush; Pittacus Green, De Wolf Hopper; Barney O'Flynn, W. B. Cahill; Methuselah Miggings, H. Davenport; Clara, Miss Ida Delange; Joe, Sid Y. Couldock; Dan, D. Maxwell. The company is to remain this week only, and is to be followed by Mestayer's Tourists 31, and Lawrence Barrett in "Francesca da Rimini" Jan. 7.

THE END OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—Billy Birch on Dec. 22 sold to J. H. Haverly all of his right, title and interest in this minstrel organization, and after the end of the present week the San Francisco Minstrels will no longer have a local habitation. The name of their opera-house is to be changed to that of J. H. Haverly's Comedy Theatre, and Grau's French-opera Company are to begin a season Dec. 31. A portion of the minstrel troupe is to join Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels, but Billy Birch will not be among them. He has not as yet decided as to his future course. The San Francisco Minstrels have been in existence in this city ever since May 8, 1865, and it is appropriate for this paper, which has preserved so faithful a record of their performances, to give in full the programme that is to be presented on their closing night, Dec. 29:

HAVERLY'S SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL AND COMEDY THEATRE.

BIRCH'S SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. HAVERLY'S MASTODON

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF J. H. HAVERLY.

Mr. Joseph A. Gulick.....Manager

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

Mr. A. C. Comstock Jr.....Stage-manager
Mr. W. S Mullaly.....Musical director
Mr. James Hamilton.....Treasurer

PART FIRST.

"Blackbird, sing me something well,
Here thou may'st warble, rest and dwell."

Master of Ceremonies.....Mr. A. C. Moreland.
Overture—Johann Strauss' "Merry War".....Mullaly's Orchestra
"When the Birds Return Again".....Banks Winter
"Bridget Donahue".....Billy Richardson
"I Will Be True to Thee".....Joseph M. Woods
"Tidings of Comfort and Joy".....Billy Birch
"Some Day".....Thomas Campbell
"Sweet Evelina".....Hughey Dougherty

FINALE:
SIM DEMPSEY.

Sim Dempsey.....Charles V. Seamon
Barbour Jim.....Edward Girard
Mr. Williams.....A. C. Moreland
Selections.....Mullaly's Orchestra

PART SECOND.
RHAPSODICAL RAVINGS.

Original and Piquant.....BOB SLAVIN
SEAMON AND GIRARD,
1st.—The Dudes. 2d.—The Jockey Ball.
THE AMERICAN CICERO, HUGHEY DOUGHERTY.

First Production of the Excruciating Funny Picture of "LIFE DOWN-TOWN," Perpetrated by Messrs. Gulick and Comstock, to enlighten everybody to the "Modus Operandi" of Stock Speculation, and entitled

THE WALL-STREET CYCLONE, OR THE INSIDE OF WALL STREET.

MANIPULATORS:

Uncle Rufus Hatch.....Mr. Billy Birch
"All I want is a week."
Jay Gould.....Mr. Hughey Dougherty
"I'll make all the bets, you keep tab."
Theodore Bore.....Mr. Billy Richardson
"Lunch with a millionaire daily."
Jim Clean.....Mr. Bob Slavin
"Providence, 9; Boston, 0."
Charles Smooth.....Mr. Charles V. Seamon
"Find me at the Brunswick."
George W. Fifthavenue.....Mr. Edward Girard
"I say, Charley! How's the market?"
Nimothy Nip.....Mr Eddie Manning
"The son of a Syracuse salt-seller."
Rushin McGuff.....Mr. Dan Thompson
"Sell that land."
Steele Penn.....Mr. Robert Hoadley
"Ashes quiet and unchanged."

Speculators, Operators, Brokers, "All Broke," by the Company.

RICE'S SURPRISE PARTY in "Pop" began a week's season Dec. 24 before a small audience in the Fourteenth-street Theatre. The company now includes John A. Mackay, G. K. Fortescue, N. S. Burnham, W. H. West, D. Gorman, Kate Castleton, Irene Perry, May Stembler, Josie Hall and Emma Hanley. A new song entitled "They've Captivated Me," words by J. Cheever Goodwin, music by E. E. Rice, was sung by Belle Adams, and met with favor. John T. Raymond is to open Dec. 31.

AT DALY'S THEATRE on Monday night a fair-sized audience witnessed "7-20-8," which on Jan. 1 is to receive its one hundred and sixty-first representation by Mr. Daly's company.

J. B. BOOTH'S WILL, which was allowed by Judge Choate of the Essex, Mass., Court of Probate, Oct. 15, 1883, is as under:

Be it remembered that I, Junius Brutus Booth of Manchester, in the County of Essex, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do make and publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills by me heretofore at any time made.

First—I will bequeath to my wife, Marion Agnes, all my interest, right and title to all land, houses and property of any kind owned by me in said Manchester, Mass., and also all interest, right and title to property owned by me in San Francisco, Cal., and to all moneys due me by parties in said Manchester and San Francisco. In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal this 19th day of August, A. D., 1878. J. B. BOOTH.

The will and testament on the reverse side of this sheet was signed, sealed and published by Junius Brutus Booth, as and for his last will and testament, in our presence, who, at his request, and in his presence, and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto: EDWARD H. SMITH, GEORGE D. BANCROFT, S. H. HALSTEAD.

Mr. Booth's daughter, Marie R. E. Booth, professionally known as Marion Booth, has appealed from Judge Choate's decision, and her petition, dated New York City Dec. 17, sets forth:

She had no knowledge of the proceedings to admit the will to probate; no notice or citation was sent to her, though Marion Agnes Booth, the widow, well knew her address, and the petitioner has not been in Massachusetts since her father's death, except to attend his funeral. She was not made aware of her father's illness until after his death, and she charges that the same was kept from her purposely in order that the widow might the better undu

Harry La Rose, Harrington and Johnson, Bonnie Runnells, the Murphys and the La Rue Family, concluding with a set of very pretty nursery-rhyme quadrilles, collected under the title of "The Mother Goose Party." William Carroll was billed to appear, but did not banjoize as expected.

HARRY MINER'S BOWERY THEATRE.—A fair audience filled this place of amusement Dec. 24. Charley Schilling, Harry Sefton, Dan McCarthy and Kitty Coleman, Harry Watson and Alice Hutchins, Ada Burnett, Ella Wesner, Sam Devere and the Davenport Brothers paved the way for the first production of A. H. Sheldon's drama "The Phantom Arrow," in which the author as Lucky Pipps scored a great success. The new piece is well presented, with new scenery, painted by R. L. Weed, and promises to have a good run, to judge from the enthusiasm it created Monday night. There was a good house on Christmas afternoon, the parquet being especially well patronized.

THE LONDON THEATRE.—The Kernells, Wheatley & Traynor's Combination is the loadstone at this house for week of Dec. 24. The Maxwells, Flynn and O'Brien, the Laporte Sisters, Harry and John Kernell, whose every joke was thoroughly appreciated and loudly applauded; the McShane Brothers, clever little boxers; Kitty O'Neil, the Olympia Quartette, O'Brien Brothers, and Wheatley and Traynor, who are among the best artists in their line, furnished the opening feast of amusement, which was concluded with the comedy-drama "Flanagan's Ball," to which screaming dose of fun the whole combination contributed their share. There was a large attendance on Christmas afternoon, but not a rush.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.—A moderately-full house, but a thoroughly-pleased audience, greeted the Christmas-week festive bill-of-fare Dec. 24 at this theatre. Miss Hattie Belle, the Big Little Four, Ashley and Hess and Kelly and Ryan furnished a charming and complete olio prelude, sharpening the appetites of the patrons of the house for the *piece de resistance*, "The Two Orphans," with Walter S. Sandford as Pierre, A. W. Purcell as Jacques, Alf. A. Wallace as the Chevalier, Mamie Wallace and Edith Bird as the two orphans, and Jennie Wills as Mere Frochard. Next week, N. S. Wood in "Jack Harkaway Afloat and Ashore."

MUSICAL NOTES.—The French-opera Troupe which was to have sung at the Standard Theatre have overcome their embarrassment, occasioned by the destruction of that house, by hiring the San Francisco Opera-house, where they will shortly appear with Aimee.....The English Glee Club—Henrietta Beebe, soprano; Mrs. Sarah H. Alderson, contralto; W. Dennison and G. Ellard, tenors; W. H. Beckett, baritone; and George E. Aiken bass—was heard at Chickering Hall Dec. 22. Carl Florio is the accompanist.....A concert in which Arbuckle's Band, under its new director, Reinhold Smelz, took part, was given at the Thalia Theatre 23.....Mapleson's Opera Company reopen the season here 31.....Emma Juch, Rosalba Beecher, Sara Barton, vocalists, and Teresa Carreno, pianist, were the attractions at the Sunday concert at the Casino 22. "The Beggar-student" still holds the stage at this house during the week.....Ottilie Lewis, Harry Montague and the Duncan Sisters' specialties are intermixed with the musical features at Koster & Bial's Concert-hall.....Mme Helen Hopekirk gave her first piano-recital here at Steinway Hall afternoon Dec. 20.....Mme. Geistinger still attracts at the Thalia Theatre, as does "Orpheus" at the Bijou Opera house.....The first concert for young people under the direction of Theodore Thomas was given at Steinway Hall afternoon of 22. The programme embraced Weber's "Preciosa" overture, the larghetto of Beethoven's second symphony, the scherzo and wedding march of Mendelssohn's "Midsummer night's Dream" music. Gluck's "Paris and Helene" ballet air, the "Waldweben" from Wagner's "Siegfried," an aria from "The Magic Flute" and a ballad sung by Amy Sherwin.....The New York Chorus inaugurated its season 19 at Steinway Hall.....Clara Louise Kellogg is now in the city, resting after her concert tour.

Brooklyn.—The Madison-square Theatre "Rajah" Combination opened at the Park Theatre Dec. 24. The audience was of fair size. Next week, "The Power of Money."

BROOKLYN THEATRE.—W. J. Scanlan in "Friend and Foe" was the attraction Dec. 24. Business light. Next week, Henry Irving.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—Aldrich and Parsloe began a week's season Dec. 24 in "My Partner" to an audience of goodly proportions. F. S. Chanfrau opens 31.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The second concert of the Amphion Society was given Dec. 18 to a large and fashionable audience. It was in all respects a success. Miss Agnes Huntington was the soloist.....The Amafanth (amateur) Society played "Don Cæsar de Bazan" 19 to a large attidence.....The third Philharmonic Concert 22, as well as the rehearsal 21, was largely attended. "The Messiah" was sung, the principal soloists being Misses Winant and Sherwin and Messrs. Winch and Toedt. The oratorio was well rendered.....Callender's Minstrels opened 24 for one week to light business.....W. E. Sinn has taken the Academy for the week of 31, and will present "Excelsior.".....Abbey's Italian-opera Company will hold the boards Jan. 7, 8 and 10. On the 9th the Kemble Society will give a performance.

NOVELTY THEATRE.—Annie Pixley as "Zara" began what promises to be a successful week's engagement 24. Tony Denier's "Humpty Humpty" opens 31.

LEE-AVENUE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—F. S. Chanfrau in "Kit" was the attraction Dec. 24. Next week, "The Stranglers of Paris."

HYDE & BEHMAN'S THEATRE.—The new people Dec. 24 were Emerson and Clark, Minnie Lee, Hawkins and Collins, W. F. Carroll, Roemer and Laroux, Billy Chace, Frank B. Wills and May Adams, Belle Clifton and Louise De Luisi and the Four Diamonds. Closed 22: Sam Devere, Kelly and Ryan, Hallen and Hart, St. Felix Sisters, the Davenport Brothers, Lillie West, Fields, Hamlin and Keller, Mlle. Morinne and Louis Frank.

STANDARD MUSEUM.—John Denier's "Humpty Dumpty" Troupe is the attraction here week of Dec. 24. Business good.

BUNNELL'S MUSEUM.—For Christmas-week the leading attractions are Thomas Waddy, the Bindleys, Little Mollie, James Dailey, Thomas Gale, Jessie Forrest, Maud Whiting, Ralph Wilton and Mollie Marsh.

NOTES.—Extra matinees were to have been given at all the theatres on Christmas-day.....Manager Sinn of the Park is to present an illustrated almanac to each lady attendant at his theatre Dec. 26 to 29.....The two museums—Bunnell's and the Standard—are running a fierce opposition. They are next-door neighbors.....The Arcadian Society is to present "The Widow Hunt" at Bedford Hall Dec. 27.....W. A. Shaw, an attache of the Park Theatre, was recently presented with a gold-headed cane by his associates.....Orchestral concerts are given each evening of Christmas-week at Zipp's Casino under the direction of John B. Holding.

Albany.—At the Leland Opera-house Richard Mansfield appeared Christmas afternoon and evening in "A Parisian Romance," and is to repeat the same 26. He will be followed 27, 28, 29, by H. F. Weed's Combination in "The Power of Money." The Tourists (original co.) failed to draw 17, 18, 19, while "Esmeralda," with Ben Maginley, etc., did fairly 20, 21, 22.

MUSIC HALL.—Pat Rooney's Variety Company had a good-sized audience Dec. 24. They remain two nights. Mgr. Capel lectured 19 to a rather slim house. Patterson's New York Opera Company did a fair business 20, 21, 22, with "The Queen's Lace Handkerchief." The principal singers comprise Louise Searle, Louise Manfred, Fanny Redding, Helen Cooper, Herr Adolphi, Joseph Greensfelder and C. M. Pyke, while the conductor's chair is ably filled by Herr Kreitzig. Frank Patterson is the proprietor and Ormond H. Butler the business-manager.

LEVANTINE'S VAUDEVILLE.—Harry M. Parker and dogs, Polly Daily, Florence French, Sanders and Dean, George Woods, Marie Whittingham, Dick Barker, the Schrode Brothers and Bessie Beach constituted the fresh features Dec. 24. During the past week business averaged fair. Closed 22: Hawkins and Collins, Myra Goodwin, Perry and Lulu Ryan, Mlle. Le Favre, Lulu Wentworth, William Maurittius and Fanny Herring. George Phillips is now the stage-manager.

CLIPPINGS.—The Christmas number of *The Albany Morning Express* contains contributions from a number of theatrical celebrities, among them Mrs. Chas. E. Leland, Mrs. John Drew, W. J. Florence and Dion Boucicault.....P. J. McDonald, the competent stage-carpenter at the Leland, was on Saturday night, 22, presented with a handsome gold watch by the stage-hands and employes of the theatre.

Troy.—At the Griswold Opera-house "The White Slave" Co. opened Dec. 24 for four nights. Miner's Comedy Four is due 28, 29. Owing to the excellence of the sleighing and the immense holiday shopping, "The Tourists" 20, 21, 22, did not have thronged houses, although "Esmeralda" fared better the first three nights of last week. The week's business was profitable, however, and the performances were appreciated.

RAND'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Patterson's "Queen's Lace Handkerchief" Co. sang twice on Christmas and at a matinee 26. Fanny Davenport in "Fedora" is due 29.

MUSIC HALL.—Jacob's Aggregation of Dwarfs, A. L. Davis, Powers Brothers, Zoe Meleke and Nelton remain through holiday-week, making the stand a fortnight one. Business was moderate week ending 22.

GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE.—Closed Dec. 22, after moderate week's business: Parker and dogs, Four Shamrocks, Florence French, Geyer and Mackie, and local young amateur ballad debutant Jacob Hyams, who made a pronounced hit. Opened 24: Weston Sisters, Hamlin and Keeler, Redmund and Clifton, Galvin and Doyle, Lillie Wood and George Devere.

Buffalo.—At the Academy of Music Mlle. Rhea is the attraction all of this week. She opened Dec. 24 in "School for Scandal" to only a fair audience. "The Power of Money" Combination gave performances the first half of last week to light business. The Madison-square Theatre "Young Mrs. Winthrop" Company filled the remainder of the week to first-rate attendance.

WAHLE'S OPERA-HOUSE.—The Howard Athenæum Specialty Company began Dec. 24 for three nights to a good attendance, to be followed for the rest of the week by "A Parisian Romance." Arthur Rehan's "7-20-8" was given the first half of last week, the attendance being only fair. Ada Gray followed for the rest of the week to light business.

MUSIC HALL.—"Excelsior" began a week, 24, with all the original company and scenic effects from Niblo's. There was a fair house. Callender's Minstrels gave performances last week to a large attendance.

ADELPHI.—The Rentz-Santley Company began Dec. 24 to a good-sized gathering. Harry Miner's Comedy Four Company played to good business the past week.

ST. JAMES' HALL.—Bunnell's Museum continues, and is doing well, the entertainments afternoon and evening being generally well patronized.

ALHAMBRA.—Ed. Roche, John C. Cullivan and George Allen opened Dec. 24. Closed 22: Degan and Lorraine and Ed. Gallagher. Business good.

MARGARET MATHER rested here the past week.

Syracuse.—At the Wieting Opera-house John T. Raymond played "In Paradise" Dec. 24 and Xmas-matinee and "For Congress" Xmas-night. A company playing "New York After Dark" gave a very shady performance to a light audience 17. Patterson's Co. in "The Queen's Lace Handkerchief" was greeted by a crowded house 18. John McCullough in "Virginius" drew a full house 19. Harry Weed's "Power of Money" Co. played 20, 21, 22 to rather light biz. Fanny Davenport is due 26, 27, Thos. Keene 28, 29, Barney McAuley Jan 1.....At the Grand Opera-house Arthur Rehan's "7-20-8" Co. played 24, 25 and matinee. Ada Gray in "East Lynne" drew lightly 18, 19. The Rentz-Santley Novelty Co. drew very well 20. John T. Hinds in "The Bells o' Shandon" had fair-sized audiences 21, 22. Bookings: Howard Athenæum Star Specialty Co. 27, 28, Lawrence Barrett 29.

Rochester.—At the Grand Opera-house Fanny Davenport opened Dec. 24 in "Fedora" to a large audience. Patterson's New York Opera Co. in "The Queen's Lace Handkerchief" is due 27. John T. Raymond 28, 29. T. W. Keene 31, one week. The "New York After Dark" Co. 18, 19 had poor business. Arthur Rehan's "7-20-8" Co. closed the remainder of the week to small audiences. The play, as well as the company, is one of the best on the road, and both are deserving of better patronage than they received while here.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Margaret Mather's Co. opened Dec. 24 for one week, with the largest sale of seats in advance of all companies appearing here this season. The audience was very large, standing-room being at a premium. John McCullough 17, 18 had crowded houses. Leavitt's Rentz-Santley's Burlesque Co. (Fred Wilson manager) came 21, 22 to large audiences.

AT THE Opera-house, Elmira, John McCullough in "Virginius" drew a crowded house Dec. 20. "In Paradise" was presented by John T. Raymond 21 to fair business. B. McAuley gave two performances 25, appearing in "The Jerseyman" at the matinee and as "Uncle Dan'l" in the evening. Barlow, Wilson & Co.'s Minstrels are announced for 28, to be followed by Duprez & Benedict's Minstrels Jan 1 and Fanny Davenport 4.

AT THE SHATTUCK OPERA-HOUSE, Hornellsville, Maubury & Overton's Company appeared Dec. 17 in "A Hoop of Gold" to good attendance. Richard Foote and company, billed for 22, did not appear, owing to non-arrival of baggage, etc. B. McAuley and company in "The Jerseyman" played 24. A Madison-square Theatre Co. in "Young Mrs. Winthrop" is due 28.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia.—Robson and Crane opened their "Boarding-house" at the Walnut-street Theatre Dec. 24, and many occupied the house for the evening. Next week they are to give "Our Bachelors" and "Sharps and Flats." Wyndham closed a good two weeks' engagement 22.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The Boston spectacle of "Jalma," announced for 24, was not produced, in consequence of there being no costumes. The audience were dismissed.

CHESTNUT-STREET OPERA-HOUSE.—John McCullough appeared as Virginius to satisfactory business 24. The same play is on for 25, 26, 27, 28 and afternoon 29. "Julius Cæsar" at all the other performances of the week except afternoon of 26, when "Othello" will be given. McCullough next week. "The Stranglers of Paris" closed a poor two weeks' engagement 22.

HAVERLY'S THEATRE.—"The Beggar-student" continued to draw largely Dec. 24. It is still billed till further notice.

BIJOU THEATRE.—Numbers went to see "The Colleen Bawn" afternoon and night 24. "The Jewess" was produced to a crowded house afternoon of 25, and will be repeated till 29.

ARCH-STREET THEATRE.—There was no performance 24, owing to the preparations necessary for the production of "Vim," which was put upon the stage to a crowded house Christmas-afternoon. It will be played all this week. Carrie Swain closed to light business 22.

ARCH-STREET OPERA-HOUSE.—"The Pirates of Penzance" was produced to excellent business 24. Same bill all of current week.

CHESTNUT-STREET THEATRE.—Gus Williams pulled moderately 24 in "One of the Finest," in which he continues till 31, when "Hazel Kirke" will follow. C. P. Flockton closed 22 in "The Flying Dutchman."

NATIONAL THEATRE.—"Siberia" gathered them in greatly 24, and will continue all this week and next.

NEW CENTRAL THEATRE.—There was a large audience present 24, the attractions for this week being the French Troupe Davene, the Villions and Mendoza Bicycle Troupe, the Cawthorns, Capitola Forrest, the California Sissons, Sheehan and Coyne, Boyd and Sarsfield, Fanny Beane and Charles Gilday, and Lulu Newton. There will be a matinee every day of current week. All of last week's company closed 22.

INTERNATIONAL COMIQUE.—This house reopened 24, under the management of Squire Jas. McColgan, with the following attractions: Edwards and Morton, Lizzie Davis, Daisy Kernell, Smith and Ryan and Jas. St. Belina. The house was filled.

THE CLUB THEATRE.—There was a good house 24, the company consisting of Hallen and Hart, Lottie Bordeaux, Jenny Welch, Minnie Lawton, Georgie Melnotte, Mlle. De Graville, Williams and Lawrence, Prof. Geo. Ott, Geo. Elwood, Harry Budworth, Harry Wood, Prof. Lollosy and Minnie Wood.

CARNCROSS' MINSTRELS.—Crowded was the house 24, when the bill included several clever new acts, the principal among which were "Our Christmas-tree" and "Mother Goose, or the Golden Egg."

HAGAR, CAMPBELL & Co.'s MUSEUM.—The Botocudo Indians were the trump cards 24, packing the place. Annie Jones, Walter Stewart, Sol Stone and G. B. Garrison were also among the new attractions.

BREVITIES.—W. H. Schultz, a favorite actor, is resting at his home here.....Esmeralda" was given by amateurs at Sauro Hall Dec. 19, 20.....The Mendelssohn Club gave their first concert of the present season during the past week.....Judgment was given in the Court of Common Pleas Dec. 20 on a judgment-note for $257, given Jan. 1, 1882, by Manager William J. Gilmore, to Sidney C. France, for salary due the latter for playing under Gilmore's management in Baltimore. Mr. Gilmore's counsel stated that an agreement had been made between the two gentlemen by which Mr. France was to have destroyed the note, and Mr. Gilmore believed that this had been done, or he would never have allowed the matter to get into the courts.....The Morphet Bros., magicians, of this city, are to appear in Camden, N. J., Dec. 28, and in Roxborough, an outlying district of this city, 29.....The Cecilian Musical Society sang Handel's oratorio of "The Messiah" 20 at the Academy of Music to great attendance. Mrs. Mike Cross officiated as conductor.....W. N. Griffith, leading-man of the Bijou Theatre, benefited there Dec. 21. The bill consisted of the ghost's scenes from "Hamlet," with the beneficiary as the melancholy Dane, and the comedy of "My Awful Dad." The house was crowded, Mr. Griffith being frequently called before the curtain. He was presented with a diamond stud by an unknown donor.....Saul Heilbron is business-manager of the Chestnut-street Theatre.....There will be a special holiday matinee on Christmas at every place of amusement in the city. Marie Jansen has made a hit in "The Beggar-student" at Haverly's. A bouquet of flowers thrown to her on Friday contained a handsome bracelet. On Saturday she received in another bouquet a gold watch studded with turquoises and diamonds.....Henry Distin and J. W. Pepper, the cornet-makers, have filed an answer in Court of Common Pleas, No. 2, to the bill in equity of Jules Levy, praying that the former be restrained from using letters written by Levy in praise of their cornets for advertising purposes.

Pittsburg.—For three reasons, theatrical business was not so good last week as had been anticipated. First, many of the young men had their exchequers depleted by the Homœpathic Fair during the two weeks previous; second, others have been taking advantage of the excellent sleighing afforded by recent snowfalls; and third, the older patrons of the drama have been busy preparing for the holidays, and had no time to attend theatres.

OPERA-HOUSE.—Maggie Mitchell opened in "Pearl of Savoy" 24 to a good audience. Manager Harry Eilsler was presented with a handsome pair of diamond sleeve-buttons by the attaches of the theatre. Mr. Paddock of Maggie Mitchell's Company made the presentation speech. Haverly's "Silver King" was presented during the whole of last week to only moderate business. The company is a well-balanced one, and is the best Haverly has ever cast in a play in this city. Kiralfys' New Silver "Black Crook" is underlined for 31.

LIBRARY HALL.—Salsbury's Troubadours began a week's engagement 24, presenting as their opening attraction "Green-room Fun." The audience was moderate as to numbers. Mlle. Rhea's engagement last week was not so successful financially as it was artistically. "Frou-Frou," "School for Scandal," "Adrienne," "Much Ado About Nothing" and "An Unequal Match" composed her repertory. "The Rajah" comes 31.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Warner's Boston Theatre Co., headed by W. J. Cogswell and Elmer Warner, present this week the new drama entitled "The Saints of Utah." Their business on the opening-night, 24, was light.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Toretti, prince of the wire; Harry Vaughn, J. W. McAndrews, Nellie Parker, the Four Comets, Harry Shay, Magee and Allen, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Conway, Emerson and West, three Albion Brothers, Chas. Saunders, Lillie Burdell and Dan Sully opened 24 to a crowded auditorium. Kernells, Wheatley & Trayner Combination did very well last week. Next week, Crandall & Eastwood's Comedy Co.

PHŒNIX THEATRE.—This place has banished the Indians, and it opened for regular business 24, with Mary Orton's Dramatic Company in a sensational drama called "Carlotta, the Padrone's Victim." The Knights of Labor are the patrons of the company. The attendance at the opening was fair. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will follow 31.

HARRIS' MUSEUM.—Carrie Moore, Chas. Moore and the Zeigs have been added to the company. The souvenirs attracted large audiences during the past week, the possibility of getting something for nothing being an attraction that large numbers of people were unable to resist. Business opened up 24 excellently.

LAFAYETTE HALL.—The Welsh Eisteddfod was held afternoon and evening of 25 under the direction of St. Jacob's Society, and was the greatest event in Welsh musical circles that has ever been known here.

COLISEUM.—A grand concert under the auspices of the Musical Union was given 26. In addition to the solos by performers announced last week the choruses from Handel's "Messiah" were given; also Beethoven's "Leonore" overture, a selection by Adolph Hartdegan for stringed instruments, with 'cello obligato, and Schuman's Fourth Symphony (No. 4, D minor) entire.

NOTES.—J. T. Sullivan of the Rhea Combination was formerly THE CLIPPER correspondent in Detroit. He has been on the stage only about six months, but has already developed sufficient talent to satisfactorily play such a character as Joseph Surface in "School for Scandal.".....Geo. Woodward and Eugenie Lindeman of the Rhea Combination have announced their intention of becoming one in the near future.....Wm. Henry Rice was in town last week, resting.....Hanley's "McSorley's Inflation" Co. was in town 22, *en route*.....The last of the Wallace-Webster ballad recitals were given in the Art-gallery of Library Hall 22 to a highly cultured and appreciative audience. Another series has been asked for and will probably be given, beginning in February.....The soloists engaged for the Mendelssohn Union Festival March 11, 12, 13, 14, are Miles. Valleria and Scalchi, Del Puente, Campanini and Remenyi. Campanini's brother will be the accompanist.....Sid R. Ellis of this city is stage-manager for Maggie Mitchell.....Maggie Mitchell is the guest of Mrs. Geo. Mashey while here.....Dan Sully of this week's Academy Co., will shortly star in a new drama entitled "Corner Grocery."

IN BRADFORD, John T. Raymond "In Paradise" drew a full house Dec. 17. Barney McAuley played to poor business 21, 22. The weather was bad, and people were too busy with their holiday shopping to attend shows. J. O. Jennings, in advance of Buffalo Bill, was in town Wednesday.....At the Gem Theatre Harry Montague closed a successful engagement 22. C. S. Sullivan's Female Mastodons opened Dec. 24 to a packed house, people being turned away. The Shedman Bros. open Jan. 7.

IN ALTOONA there are not so many troupes visiting us this season as during the year 1882. The Opera-house is to be improved and altered at a cost of $20,000 after April 1. Henry Ward Beecher had a fair audience Dec. 17. Ida Cerito's Female Minstrels had a poor house 19. Williams, Manchester & Jennings are due 27, Baird's Minstrels 31, "The Danites" Co. Jan. 3, Aldrich & Parsloe 12.

ERIE.—At the Park Opera-house John T. Raymond in "In Paradise" delighted a fine house Dec. 17, pleasing everybody. Margaret Mather in "Romeo and Juliet" had a full house 19. Denman Thompson 22 played Joshua Whitcomb to a good house.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Boston.—At the Boston Theatre Dec. 24 Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels, to a good house, opened their engagement of two nights and a Christmas matinee (24 and 25), Abbey's Italian-opera Company inaugurating their brief season (12 performances) 26 with "Faust." Though the minstrels were here not long ago, they are welcome again. Henry Irving, Ellen Terry and their company with the performance 22 closed a successful fortnight's engagement. The advance-sales for the Abbey opera season have been quite heavy. "After the opera," Jan. 7, John McCullough for four weeks; Margaret Mather Feb. 4 for three weeks; Denman Thompson 25, one week. Mr. Redmund and Mrs. Barry of the Boston's stock company are not, as heretofore reported, under engagement to "Billy" Bingham for a tour next season. They will, however, star through the country with "A Midnight Marriage," Mr. Redmund managing the trip. J. E. Kellard, late of the Museum, has joined one of the Boston's traveling companies. Mr. Kellard, it appears, was not satisfied with the roles assigned him at the former house. "The Silver King" is among the futurities at the Boston, and work is already progressing on the scenery.

GLOBE THEATRE.—"Confusion" was presented for the first time in this city Dec. 24 to a very good house, the cast including Henry E. Dixey as Christopher Blizzard, Henry St. Maur as Mortimer Mumpleford, Herbert Gresham as Rupert Sunberry, Alf. Fisher as James, Joseph Frankau as Bartholomew Jones, Fred Clifton as Michael Muzzle, Sadie Martinot as Rose Mumpleford, Maria Davis as Lucretia Trickleby, Verona Jarbeau as Maria, and Netta Guion as Violet. The piece made a hit, was well cast and well played. The audience gave the actors a cordial reception. Mr. Dixey and Miss Martinot did excellent work. The farce of "Distinguished Foreigners," by Wm. Gill, acted for the first time, preceded "Confusion," introducing Mr. Dixey and Florence Gerard (her first appearance in Boston), who gave imitations of Irving and Terry. It is a very funny bit of work, and was well received. Last week's business by the Mapleson Italian-opera Company was poor. Artistically, the company scored their customary triumphs, Patti, Gerster and Lillian Norton all receiving cordial welcomes. The troupe departed for Montreal, Ont., 23. Stetson's "Moths" Company is to follow "Confusion" Jan. 7.

MUSEUM.—"The Colleen Bawn" drew fairly well last week and opened the present week Dec. 24 to a fair audience. "The Rector," A. W. Pinero's play, will be produced next week for the first time in America. "East Lynne" and "Still Waters Run Deep" are in rehearsal for revival when necessary. Charles Barron's annual benefit is announced for 29, the beneficiary appearing as Sir Giles Overreach in "A New Way to Pay Old Debts." Dion Boucicault's engagement at the Museum has been canceled by mutual consent.

BIJOU THEATRE.—The third week of "The Beggar-student" opened Dec. 24, when a good-sized audience heard the opera sung in a splendid manner. The houses continue fairly good.

PARK THEATRE.—"Esmeralda," by the Madison-square Theatre Company, of which Ben Maginley and Louise Dillon are the principal members, was the attraction this week, opening Dec. 24 to a large audience. N. C. Goodwin Jr. opens Jan. 7, producing for the first time on any stage Sydney Rosenfeld's burlesque on "The Bells." Robson and Crane's fortnight's engagement at the Park closed 22, the houses during their last week having fallen off considerably. Their season averaged fairly good business.

HOWARD ATHENÆUM.—Mme. Girard-Gyer's Statuary and Specialty Combination opened Dec. 24, when a good house was in attendance, the favorites apparently being Maggie Cline and McCarthy and Munroe. Davene's Allied Attractions closed 22, business having been good. Next week Harry Miner's Comedy Four, the Howard Specialty Company returning Jan. 7.

WINDSOR THEATRE.—J. J. Coleman and Jessie Deagle, supported by George France, Ethel Earle, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cohan and others, opened Dec. 22 to a fair house in "81 Slocum." Last week's business was fair. Rev. Henry Morgan lectured 23 (Sunday). Next week Baylies & Kennedys' "Bright Lights" Combination.

BOYLSTON MUSEUM.—The new faces opening Dec. 24, to the usual good business, were Le Clair and Russell, Alice Hale and M. Leonzo. Departures 22: Minnie Belmont, Tennyson and O'Gorman, and Flora Story.

DIME MUSEUMS.—Three are now open here, of which Austin & Stone's, Tremont row, appears to do the best business. Young Ariel, Geo. W. Harding, Carrie Hall, Richards, Lina Howard, Ainsley Brothers, Ellsworth Children, Japanese Tommy, the Fijians and the Zulus form the holiday-week bill here.....The Globe Museum, 361 Washington street, is now open under the management of John Mack, the proprietor being F. H. Andrews.....The attendance at the New York Dime Museum, Washington street, continues quite good. A variety show is given here also.

IN GENERAL.—Charles Frohman, Henry E. Abbey and Louis Aldrich were in town last week.....William Warren will spend the holidays with his sister in Chicago.....Billy" Bingham is said to be engaged to take the Kiralfy Brothers' "Excelsior" on the road.....Locke Richardson begins a series of afternoon readings in Chickering Hall Dec. 27.....A concert at Union Hall 26 is to be participated in by Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Buck, E. E. Holden, Mr. Ryan, W. H. Miller and Mrs. A. Crain, comprising the Buck Concert Company.....Mrs. A. F. Hervey, Maud Hotchkiss, Samuel King, S. Kronberg, Thos. Mullaly, Sig. Placido, Fiumara E. Ackeroyed, W. C. Hunt and Jas. W. Cheerey gave a concert 23 at Minot Hall to a good house....Geo. E. Whiting gave another of his weekly organ-recitals (matinees) at Tremont Temple 25, Sarah C. Fisher, soprano, assisting....."The Messiah," by the Handel and Haydn Society, was sung at Music Hall 23, 25, the former night being a public rehearsal. Soloists: Elizabeth C. Hamlin, Hope Glenn, C. R. Adams and John F. Winch....The twelfth concert of the Boston Symphony Orchestra occured at Music Hall 29, when Mrs. Georg Henschel (Lillian Bailey) was the soloist.....Sullivan's Hibernicon and Mirror of Ireland Specialty Company appeared at the Melonaon Christmas matinee and evening..... The Olympian Colored Troupe of Jubilee-singers gave a concert at Tremont Temple Christmas-night (25).....All the theatres give extra matinees on Christmas-day.....William F. Zoeller, who was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Boston, Mass., Dec. 20, was long connected with Gilmore's and the Boston Cadet Bands. He was also a member of Boston Turnverein Society and of Post 21, G. A. R. The Cadet Band furnished the music at the funeral, and the floral tributes were profuse and elegant.

MISSOURI.

Kansas City.—At Choate's Opera-house Maurice Grau's French-opera Co. opened Dec. 24 for three nights and a matinee Christmas. Herne's "Hearts of Oak" Co. is due 27, John W. Ransone 28, 29. Madison-square Theatre Co. "Esmeralda," No. 2, played 17, 18 to large houses. The house was closed 20. John L. Sullivan Combination 21, 22.

GILLIS OPERA-HOUSE.—Lizzie Evans in "Fogg's Ferry" opened Dec. 24 for three nights. Rice's Surprise Party is due 27, 28, 29. Lytton Sothern played in "Brother Sam" to fair business 17, 18, and as Dundreary 19. He did not seem to make a very favorable impression on those who saw him. An English-opera Co. 21 and 22.

COLISEUM THEATRE.—Opening Dec. 24 were the Everetts, De Clairville Brothers, Minnie Dunn, Sweeney and Kearney, the Donaldsons and Frank Howe. Closed 23: Kennedy and Sinclair, Marren and Parent and Simon Grassburger. Business fair.

WALNUT-STREET THEATRE.—Georgie Kaine, Charles H. King Antonio Gofree, Morton and Leslie and Jennie White are announced for this week. Closed: Heffernan and McDonald.

KANSAS CITY MUSEUM.—This week Prof. Jukes' London Mystery Company, Harris Quadruplet Sisters, Madame Naomi, Jennie Sanders, Prof. Boucher and Prof. Bigelow are billed. Closed: Prof. Landis, Jennie Anderson and band of Apache Indians. Business good.

St. Louis.—Joseph Jefferson at the Olympic Theatre opened to a good house Dec. 24, playing "The Rivals." Evans, Bryant & Hoey's Meteors did only a fair business last week. Roland Reed follows 30.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—Joseph Murphy, who began an engagement 24, was greeted by a large gallery audience. Grau's French-opera Company opened to a light house, but business kept improving till Friday night, when "La Jolie Parfumeuse" drew a crowded audience. Collier's "Lights o' London" commences 30.

POPE'S THEATRE.—"Young Mrs. Winthrop" was played before a large audience Dec. 24.

PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—"The Devil's Auction" was greeted by a large audience 24. Robert McWade did a wretched business last week with "Rip Van Winkle." "Nobody's Claim" Co. 30.

STANDARD THEATRE.—George H. Adams' "Humpty Dumpty" Combination drew a crowded audience 24. "The Danites," as presented by Chas. B. Palmer's Company, did a light business last week. "Her Atonement" 30.

EDWARDS' THEATRE COMIQUE.—Andy Morris' Pantomime and Specialty Company are new here this week; also Thorn and Williams, Ida Maussey, Young Tootsey, Gus Garholt, Nellie Allen, George Derious, Julia Walcott, Lillie Ellis and Les Incroyables. The performance will conclude with the pantomime of "Jack and Jill." Business fair.

CRYSTAL-PALACE THEATRE.—Marrant and Parrant, the Amanns, Kate Mausi and C. C. Mathews are announced for this week. Annie Oakley, Chas. H. King, Emery and Russell, Butler and Oakley and Mlle. Eugenia closed.

ESHER'S ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—McCoy and Wischman, Moore Sisters, and Adah Richmond are new this week. The Billadeaus, George Kelley, Hughes and Vidocq, May Raymond and the D'Arley Sisters closed. Business fair.

GREGORY'S DIME MUSEUM.—The Wild, Hairy Man is announced for this week; also Stevens and Maxwell, jugglers; Lieut. Allen, ventriloquist; and Eddie Leslie, character changes.

CHAT.—The St. Louis Choral Society will perform "The Messiah" at Merchants' Exchange Hall Dec. 28. Theo. Thomas, with his orchestra, has been engaged. Three hundred trained voices will unite in the chorus.....Last week was a dull one in amusement patronage.....Harry Ellis joins the "Danites" at Indianapolis, and takes the part of Sandy.....Edward Clayburgh, late manager of the Lillian Spencer Co., has reorganized "The Creole" Company, and opened at Alton, Ill., Christmas-day.....Wm. C. Mitchell, manager People's, has engaged Mattie Vickers and Charles S. Rogers for three years from March next, and he will star them with a new company, telegraphs our correspondent Dec. 25.

MINNESOTA.

St. Paul.—At the Grand Opera-house, Mestayer's Tourists opened Dec. 24 for three nights, with matinee Christmas. McCaull's Opera Company fills out the week. "The Silver King" is due 31 for a week. John L. Stoddard, lecturer, 17, 18, 19, had good audiences.....Seventh-street Opera-house—Opening Dec. 24: Georgie Woodthorp, Fred Cooper, Lottie Beaumont and George S. Gray. Liverman's Colored Minatrels, an amateur combination, played week of Dec. 17 to very light business..... Conley's Theatre—Arrivals 24: Smith Warner, Marion Knight, H. V. Lee, Lotta Ward and Hattie Lee. Departures 22: The Leaton Sisters, Harry Morton, Annie Duncan and Oscar and Sallie Khern. Business fair only.....Seventh-street Opera-house remains in an unsettled condition. E. A. Grant is now announced as manager. There has been no settlement made with creditors. The indebtedness amounts to about $10,000. Pat Conley has been urged to take the house, but refuses to do so unless he be given full control.

Minneapolis.—At the Grand Opera-house J. H. Haverly's "Silver King" Co. opened Dec. 24 for one week. Rice's Travestie Company in "Fun on the Bristol" played to light business 17, 18, 19. J. L. Stoddard lectured to good houses 20, 21, 22.....At the Pence Opera-house Lisette Eliani's "Fun in a Boarding-school" Co. opened Dec. 24 for one week. Charles Howard played to light business week ending 22..... At the Theatre Comique the new faces Dec. 24 were the Seaton Sisters, Grace Barron, Wills and Nelson, and Oscar and Sallie Khern. Departures 22: H. V. and Hattie Lee, Smith Warner, Marian Knight and Edward Thorn. Big business. The Russells—Joe and Mary—disappointed 17 without explanation.

INDIANA.

Indianapolis.—At English's Opera-house C. B. Palmer's "Danites," with Marie Wellesley as the star, opened for three nights Dec. 24 to light business. The Kiralfys' "Black Crook" ran four nights, commencing 17, to gradually increasing business. The opening, however, was very light. Chas. A. Gardener in "Karl" filled out the week to good business.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—"The Romany Rye" Co. opened Dec. 24 for a week. There was a good house, but plenty of "paper." "Lights o' London" Co. played a fairly successful engagement the past week.

PARK THEATRE.—The "Two Johns" Co. commenced a week's engagement Dec. 24, to a packed house. Sullivan's "Maloney's Raffle" Co. pleased many week of 17.

BRADY'S DIME MUSEUM.—This place opened last night, Dec. 24, with a good specialty company and to fine business. It has two floors, with a neat theatre capable of seating two hundred.

ON THE FLY.—The "racing steed" that is to be given to some patron of the Park New-Year's Day was never known to have run away—that is, not during the last 15 years.....John M. Hickey organized a company in this city last week to work the small towns with "Rip Van Winkle.".....Will E. English is back from your city. It is to be hoped that he will adopt the new chair then, as with its eighteen exits his house will be as safe as it is possible to make it in case of fire.

DEDICATED.—The new opera-house in Henderson was dedicated Dec. 18 by Emma Abbott's Opera Co.

Continued on page 700.

NOTED PERFORMERS OF OUR TIMES.

Sketches of Leading Professionals.—Series No. 1.

MISS CLARA MORRIS.

This foremost American representative of the "emotional drama" was reared in Cleveland, O. She was born about 1848, and not with a silver spoon in her mouth, either. Her mother was a worker. Her father was different. About 1860 he was run over and killed. This made it easier for the mother to support the family, and in 1862 Clara, who had for some time been a help to her, sought to increase her usefulness by going on the stage under the patronage of the family of John Ellsler, to all of whom she was known. It was at the Academy of Music, Cleveland, managed by Mr. E., and as a ballet-girl, that she came before the public. It is understood that the first piece in which she appeared was the spectacle of "The Seven Sisters." The name of Morris came to her by chance. The bill-printer shortened it from Morrison, and Morris it has ever since continued. After a time the young girl was entrusted with small parts, one of the earliest being Handassah in "Rookwood" in March, 1863. In May of 1865 she gave a charming portrayal of the youthful King Charles in "A Faint Heart Never Won Fair Lady." It may be remarked that she thought at first that nature had cut her out for comedy, and that soubrettes were her especial property. The first sober role entrusted to her showed that this was a mistake. The first leading serious part of importance given her was Therese in "The Orphan of Geneva," in Buffalo, N. Y., about 1865–6. It would have broken the heart of the great Carwin, Edwin Forrest, had he been supported by such a Therese; but, badly as it was played, it paved the way for better things, and on May 17, 1867, in Cleveland, for her benefit, she ventured upon Bianca in "Fazio." After a time passed in Milwaukee, after another season or two spent in Cleveland (she parted from John Ellsler after the season of 1868–9), after a short period passed in Detroit supporting Lotta in the Spring of 1869, and after the season of 1869–70 as leading-lady at Wood's Theatre, Cincinnati, under the management of Bernard Macauley, which she left in May, she in the Summer of 1870 became leading-lady at the Olympic Theatre, Halifax, whence she came to this city. She was engaged by Augustin Daly, not for leading business, as has been so often asserted, but to play such characters as he might elect in the Fifth-avenue Theatre, then located in West Twenty-fourth street. "Man and Wife" was in preparation for the opening of the season of 1870–71, but before that event took place the lady cast for the leading character of Anne Silvester declined to play it, and Miss Morris was then assigned the part. On the opening-night, Sept. 13, she made her metropolitan debut, and scored an immediate success, being recalled in one of the earlier scenes of the play before the act terminated—a somewhat unusual occurrence at that period. The piece had seventy representations. Her next character of importance was Lucy Carter in "Saratoga," which, after one hundred and one performances, gave place to "Jezebel," in which Miss Morris played Mme. D'Artigues. The piece proved a failure, and was withdrawn April 8, 1871. She next played Tilburnia in "The Critic" and Magdalen Vanstone in "No Name," in which latter her success was marked. The piece, however, failed to draw, and after thirteen representations it gave way on June 20 to "Delmonico's, or Larks Up the Hudson," in which Miss Morris played Constance Sherman. Miss Lulu Tibbetts, in a two-act comedy called "An Angel," was her last character that season. We have thus detailed her labors during her first season in the metropolis to show what a great influence chance may exert upon a professional career. Accident gave her a very auspicious debut, but she is not now remembered in any other character she acted that season. During the season of 1871-2 her characters were Fanny Ten Eyck in "Divorce," which ran two hundred nights, and Mlle. Cora in "Article 47," which was produced April 2, 1872, in which she created a profound impression, and that character now continues prominent in her repertory. The drama ran until the close of the season. After playing Hermina in "Diamonds" for a short time after the opening of the season of 1872–3 she went to Philadelphia under Mr. Daly's management, making her first appearance in the Chestnut-street Theatre Sept. 30 (she having previously played in the Walnut-street Theatre Feb. 22 of that year, at a matinee performance, in "Divorce"), acting Anne Silvester in "Man and Wife," which ran one week and was succeeded by

"Article 47" the following week. She then made a tour of some of the principal cities of the country. Returning to New York, she reappeared in the Fifth-avenue Theatre Dec. 23, giving a charming impersonation of Magdalen Atherleigh in "False Shame," which she continued to play until the theatre was destroyed by fire, Jan. 1, 1873. When Mr. Daly opened the old Globe Theatre as the New Fifth-avenue, Jan. 21, 1873, she created the title character in "Alixe," by which she greatly enhanced her artistic reputation. She repeated her performance in "False Shame" and "Divorce," and on May 20 created the character of Pervenche in "Madelein Morel," which was a powerful and impressive impersonation. With the termination of this season, June 28, Miss Morris closed her engagement with Augustin Daly. Nov. 17, 1873, she began a two weeks' engagement in the Union-square Theatre, acting in the "Wicked World;" and at that house, she was the original Blanche de Challes in G. F. Rowe's "Shame" on Sept. 21, 1874, the original Miss Multon (one of her great successes) Dec. 20, 1876, and the original Squire in "Far From the Madding Crowd" April 16, 1882, which proved a non-success, as had her Governess ("Jane Eyre" rewritten), and her "Jane Shore," Lady Macbeth and Evadne at Booth's Theatre. Among her plays not enumerated above have been "Raymonde," "Conscience," "The Soul of an Actress," "Frou-Frou," "Fernande," "Oliver Twist," "The New Magdalen" and "Camille," she having first appeared in the last-mentioned in 1874 at the Lyceum Theatre, this city. In it she made her Boston debut, as well as her first appearance in San Francisco, to which city she has made three professional visits. Her last season under Daly's management was begun at his Fifth-avenue Theatre Nov. 22, 1875, in "The New Leah," which was enjoined by Miss Bateman. Miss Morris closed in it prematurely on Nov. 27. She has been a star ever since. An invalid for many years, much of the work she does before the public, who often have to wait patiently for the curtain to rise, and once in a while are doomed not to see her at all when she is billed to appear, is done under the stimulus of medicaments. In Paris, France, in the Summer of 1875, she underwent the heroic treatment of the moxa, the flesh on both sides of the spinal column being burned to counteract enlargement of the upper joints of that column. In private life she is Mrs. Frederick C. Harriott, her marriage having taken place on Nov. 30, 1874.

SARAH BERNHARDT.

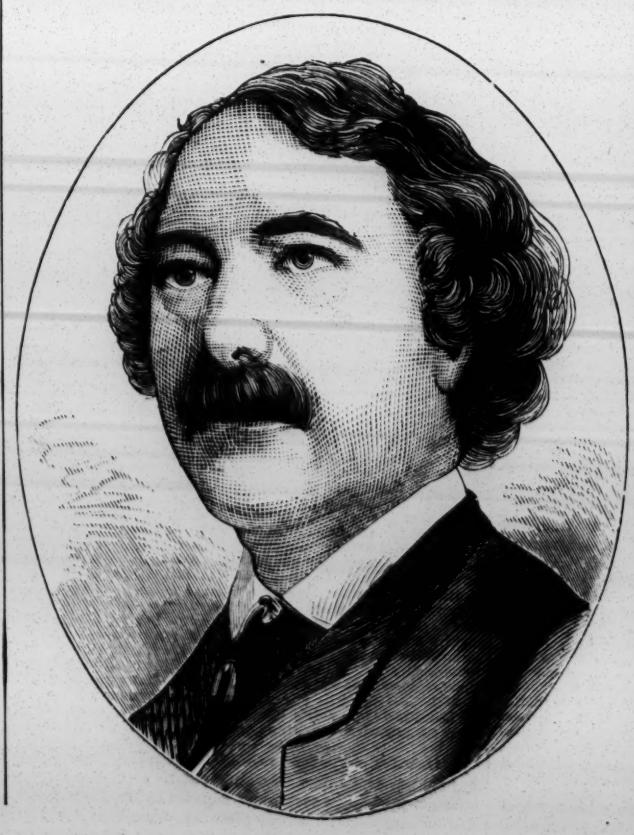
This famous Frenchwoman, who has wielded by turns the chisel of the sculptor and the brush of the painter, and last week plied the horsewhip upon the face and shoulders of the fleeing Marie Colombier, as related farther on, is of Jewish-Dutch stock. Her birthplace we have never seen stated; but, as her reputed father was a lawyer in Havre, France, it is probable that she was born either there or in Paris. Her mother, it is related, was of a Holland-Dutch family, which she abandoned, leaving Amsterdam in a diligence for Paris, where she arrived without a penny to her name. She was about to be a mother at less than fifteen years of age, which was little fault of hers, inasmuch as fecundity ran in her family. She was one of eighteen children, and she herself had twelve. The one born in Paris two months after the enforced journey from Amsterdam was not Sarah. Her father had Sarah baptized a Catholic, and placed her in the Convent of Grand Champ, Versailles, where she remained until she was about fifteen years of age, having been born about 1845. Before leaving that edifice she replied to a question as to her future intentions: "I intend to be a nun, if I cannot be an actress at the Comedie Francaise." This is the story. As the same thing had been related of Desclee and other noted Frenchwomen before Sarah's time, it is not likely that the latter said anything of the kind. It is nevertheless probable that she desired to become an actress, for she became a pupil of the actor Beauvallet, and arrangements were made to place her in the Conservatory. When the jury of that institution, headed by Auber, assembled to examine candidates for admission, Miss Bernhardt, then a slim, intelligent-looking girl, was among those presented. It was customary then for would-be pupils to recite a selection from Corneille or Racine; but the present candidate, unaware of this, was not prepared for anything of the kind. Fortunately, she knew Lafontaine's fable of "The Two Pigeons," which she proceeded to recite. Scarcely had she finished the first two lines when Auber interrupted her, saying: "Come here, my child, I want to speak to you." The girl, with a degree of self-possession which brought a smile to the faces of the jurors, advanced. "Your name?" "Sarah Bernhardt." "A Jewess?" "By birth, yes, sir; but I have been trained as a Christian." "You recite very prettily, and will be admitted," said the composer. In the Conservatory she studied under Provost and Samson. She appeared for the first time in the Comedie Francaise in August, 1862, acting Iphigenie in "Aulide." Her impersonation of this part showed her to be an actress of rare promise, and the journals distinguished by knowledge of the theatrical art praised the performance with significant warmth. This was deemed a sufficient reason for obstructing her progress, and at length, too ambitious and spirited to submit to unfair treatment, she left the theatre. She was next engaged at the Gymnase, but after a short time she mysteriously disappeared. She next appeared under an assumed name at the Porte Saint Martin Theatre, where she played the Princess Desire in "La Biche au Bois" ("The White Fawn"), and even descended so low as to sing in choruses. This situation was beneath her dignity as an artist. In 1867 she appeared in the Odeon, acting Armande in "Les Femmes Savants." Her first great success was as Zacharie in "Athalie," and then came her day of triumph with the creation of Francois Coppe's "Passant" in 1869. During the siege of Paris she won golden opinions by establishing and superintending the ambulance at the Odeon. As the Queen of Spain in "Ruy Blas" she achieved another artistic triumph Feb. 2, 1872. Before long her fame as an actress was such that the Comedie Francais threw open its doors to her, and thither she returned Nov. 6, 1872. Now, owing to an assiduous cultivation of her natural gifts, she stands at the head of the French theatre, and has established the right to be ranked on the same level as Rachel and other illustrious French artists. Her repertory includes "Brittanacus," "Phœdre," "Marriage Figaro," "Bertha De Savigny," "The Sphinx," "L'Etrangere," "Rome Vaincue," and finally she has realized the great creation of Dona Sol in Victor Hugo's "Hernani," showing the aristocratic daughter of Spain, ardent and caressing, full of grace, love, sentiment, passion and devotion. It is her face when she is made up for Dona Sol that we this week give a "counterfeit presentment" of. She appeared in London, Eng., with the Comedie Francaise Co. in the Summer of 1879, and she appeared there again in the Summer of 1881, but not with that company, she having left it in April, 1880, alleging as a reason that she had been required to play Dona Clorinde in "L'Aventuriere" without due preparation, and had consequently failed in it. It is probable that she wished to "star" and to make money fast, and in order to do that she had to sever her connection with the Comedie Francaise. She crossed the ocean in 1881, and on Nov. 8, 1880, at Booth's Theatre, this city, she made her American debut as Adrienne the Actress. So high had public expectation been raised with regard to her genius that she failed to quite meet it. Her engagement ended on Dec. 4, and she made a tour of the country. Her farewell to this city was made in "Frou-Frou," and her last appearance in this country was made May 3, 1881, at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, N. Y., as Marguerite Gautier in "Camille," a character in which she had never appeared until she came to America. In 1882 she was married to Jacques Damala, from whom she separated several months ago, their joint life not having proved felicitous either socially or financially. He had been married before, and to an opera-bouffe singer named

Minelli, from whom he separated. Sarah Bernhardt had never been married before, but she might have been. It is the fault of society alone that she was not. Had she lived anywhere but in France, she probably would have been. She has a son, Maurice Bernhardt, now a bright young man about twenty-one years of age, and connected with her in theatrical management. She is now lessee of the Porte St. Martin Theatre, Paris. Not content with the laurels she has gathered on the stage, Mlle. Bernhardt has pursued other walks of art with remarkable success. In 1869 M. Mathieu-Meusnier induced her to sit to him for a bust. She attentively watched the process, and criticised the result with so much taste that the sculptor recommended her to make an essay in his art. That very night, on her return from the theatre, she adopted his suggestion, a relative, Madame Bruck, being awakened from a sweet sleep to pose as a model. In the result the young actress became an enthusiastic votary of sculpture, and her first serious work in this direction, a marble bust of a girl, was exhibited in the Salon of 1873. Next came a bust of a younger sister, who did not live to witness its completion. But it was not until Mlle. Bernhardt exhibited Apres la Tempete that her cleverness as a sculptor was fully evinced. The subject is maternal grief; an aged woman, bereft of reason by accumulated misfortune, gazes at the dead body of an only son, refusing to believe that he is not alive, yet with a glimmering consciousness of the truth expressed in her withered face. The group is pathetic in a very high degree. Mlle. Bernhardt has also executed, among many other things, a bust of Emile De Girardin, and a colossal statue of Music for the facade of the theatre at Monaco. Nor is she a stranger to the pallet. A striking picture of Medea slaying her children has come from her easel. She wrote a book called "In the Clouds," giving an account of an ascent she made in a balloon, and afterwards, in addition to being an actress and sculptor and painter, became the regular art-critic of a daily paper.

SARAH ON THE WARPATH.

Marie Colombier, the former friend and companion of Sarah Bernhardt, was at the last moment engaged to accompany her to America, in place of her sister Jeanne, who was taken seriously ill previous to Sarah's departure and had to remain in France and undergo an operation. But it was understood that Jeanne should take her place in the company should her health allow her to do so, and this she subsequently did, thereby casting Marie Colombier in the shade—a fact that stirred up to overflowing Marie's latent jealousy of her former friend Sarah. All reports agree in stating that Bernhardt always behaved in the kindest and most courteous manner to her former friend, paying her expenses, her debts, and, in a word, doing her utmost to befriend her. Reports also agree in stating that Marie was very far from being well-behaved and grateful even while in this country, and immediately upon her return to Paris—her expenses, it is said, being again paid by Sarah—she, with the assistance of Jehan Soudan, a journalist who had accompanied the party from Paris, published in 1881 a book entitled "Le Voyage de Sarah Bernhardt en Amerique, by Marie Colombier," in which the distinguished artist was held up to ridicule in the most outrageous manner by the very person she had befriended. But Marie seems not to have been contented with thus "biting the hand that fed her," for about Dec. 18 of this year she published, as previously announced in this paper, a book entitled "Sarah Barnum," which is said to be a disgraceful work, purporting to be the life of the great actress, which drags her whole career through the mire, and winds up with a terrible and *soi-disant* prophetic scene, in which Sarah is represented as dying, and as having cut open her head and face from striking the bedstead during an attack of delirium-tremens.

The newspaper reports from Paris are so contradictory that it is almost impossible to get at the exact truth concerning the sensational sequel to this shameless publication, but they may be summarized as follows: As soon as Sarah heard of the publication of this last volume, she armed herself with a riding-whip, formerly presented to her by Marshal Conrobert, one of the most distinguished French officers of this century, and, escorted by a gentleman friend and one or two of her relatives, called upon Marie unexpectedly, and gave her a sound whipping, cutting her once or twice across the face, and chasing her about the room to the detriment of many articles of furniture, vases, pictures, nicknacks, etc. Jehan Soudan, the journalist, was present at the time, but was checked into silence by one of Sarah's friends, said to be Jean Richepin the author. An hour later Sarah calmly played her role at the Theatre Porte Saint Martin in the dress rehearsal for "Nana Sahib." It is also said that several duels will crop out of the affair, and that Jehan Soudan has challenged Jean Richepin, and, the latter declining to fight him, has branded him as a coward. Though Jean Richepin may have declined to meet Jehan Soudan, it is not because he is afraid of him, as the latter, generally known in this country as "Sudden Johnny," by reason of the rapid flight he made out of a car window with the assistance of a gentleman he had insulted, is not noted for his personal courage. On the morning of the same day as the affair in question, a duel was fought between Octave Mirabeaux, who wrote a scathing criticism of the book, and Paul Bonnetain, who wrote the preface to the memoirs. Bonnetain received two slight wounds. Some very interesting lawsuits may result from this little misunderstanding.



The press generally joins in applauding Sarah's action, and in condemning the jealous, vindictive woman who has so basely attacked one who was her best friend.

It is said that the following card has been issued by Donna Sol, as Bernhardt is called in Paris:

TO MY FRIENDS, THE PUBLIC.—I chastised Marie Colombier because she insulted me. When she was in want I brought her to America, and she shared my profits. *Peste!* She has deceived me. I gave her gold. She gave me calumny. She called me Sarah Barnum. I am not a Jumbo. Then I gave her the lash. She weighs three-hundred pounds; I weigh seventy-five. But she ran before me, this vile, ungrateful woman—this Colombier, who was nothing until she met Sarah. I have done with her. I did not chastise her for advertising purposes.

SARAH BERNHARDT.

Marie Colombier claims that Sarah was armed with a dagger and that one of her friends flourished a cutlass. Marie has written a letter to *The Figaro*, in which she says she regrets that she wrote the "Memoirs of Sarah Barnum," because the book caused so much discussion. She declares that Bernhardt was wrong in supposing herself to be the imaginary heroine alluded to in the book. Mlle. Colombier continues: "Neither her dagger nor horsewhip, nor the cutlass of M. Richpin, touched me. Concealed behind a window curtain, I witnessed all that passed. M. Richpin wounded one of my friends who was endeavoring to prevent him from entering my apartments. Mme. Bernhardt never complained about my book until injudicious friends prompted her to do so."

SIMS REEVES.

This most popular of English tenors was born at Woolwich, Eng., in 1821. His father was a musician, and it is said that he proved himself a severe instructor during the twelve years his son remained at home. At the age of fourteen, young Reeves was placed under the care of H. Calcott, who instructed him in the mysteries of harmony and counterpoint, while John Cramer taught him the piano. At the same time, displaying wonderful musical skill, the lad

acquired a knowledge of the oboe, bassoon, 'cello and violin, all of which he played remarkably well for one of his age. It is said that before he had completed his fifteenth year he had been appointed organist at the Church of North Clay. It is also said that his voice was treated as a baritone, and that the coming tenor sang in his native place, and in Scotland and Ireland, as a baritone. But this report is not confirmed, as there is another to the effect that, having having taken lessons from Hobbs the tenor, Tom Cooke, Salsbury and others, he made his public debut in June, 1839, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, as a first-tenor. After singing through the British provinces he went to Paris, and studied under Bordogni, and thence to Milan, where, under the guidance of Alberto Mazzucato, he acquired the finishing-touches necessary to a thorough formation of the voice and the production of tone; though, as regards execution and method, his schooling may be said to have been finished under the maestro Bayetti, he making his Italian debut at La Scala. The impression he made was so pronounced that Morelli engaged him for two years, and he may be said to have then become the operatic lion of the period. A curious incident is related in connection with young Reeves while at Milan. It is said that he caught cold and found himself utterly unable to sing as he could have wished, and on the ground that there was no fever the manager's doctor refused him a certificate of disability. Reeves vowed that he would not appear at La Scala that night, and so the doctor bore his ultimatum to the manager, who returned a message commanding the tenor to appear; but Reeves still refused, so the authorities were invoked, and immediately sent the police to fetch the tenor to the theatre, dead or alive. They took him to the theatre, but they could not make him sing, and the manager was eventually forced to give in. Sims Reeves has always insisted that to sing with a sore throat is unfair to the public as well as to the composer, in addition to being highly injurious to the organ of the vocalist. He subsequently returned to England, and appeared Dec. 6, 1847, at Drury-lane, London, as Edgardo in "Lucia di Lammermoor." In 1848 he engaged with the company at Her Majesty's, where he appeared but once, however, as he claimed that he was engaged to take the part of Edgardo, while the management held other opinions. This dispute resulted in a demonstration being made by his friends when Sig. Gordoni appeared in that part, but the matter was finally allowed to drop. Two years later Reeves returned to Her Majesty's, supporting Mlle. Parodi in Elvira, continuing many seasons under the management of Lumley, who eventually took him to the Italian Opera, Paris, where the tenor proved eminently successful, though the manager lost $100,000 in his two seasons in Paris. Of late years Mr. Reeves has devoted himself entirely to concerts. He is on a "farewell tour." No one but Reeves can foretell when it will end, and no one else now living can recollect when it began.

MISS GEORGIE CAYVAN.

On our third page will be found an excellent portrait of this lady. She is petite in figure, and very dark, with eyes that have peculiarly fitted her to two parts—one in "The White Slave" and the other in "The Romany Rye"—in which she has figured to advantage. Miss Cayvan is a native of Maine, and was born about 1858. Of late years Boston, Mass., has been her family residence, and there her father died in April of last year as the result of an accident. Originally she was a reader professionally, and as such appeared in various New England cities under the auspices of "literary bureaus." Her first experience behind the footlights was on April 14, 1879, when "Pinafore" was first presented at the Boston Theatre. She was in such goodly musical company as M. W. Whitney, H. C. Barnabee, George B. Frothingham, Tom Karl, Mary Bebee and the late Isabella McCullough, had an audience of about three thousand persons, and as Hebe acquitted herself quite creditably. Her first appearance on the dramatic stage was in a line to which those who have seen her later would naturally set her down as totally unfitted. It was in the low-comedy part of Sally Scraggs in "Sketches in India," on May 10, 1879, in the Boston Theatre, for the benefit of Dah Maguinness. It needs to be explained that that character was chosen because it offered a chance for Miss Cayvan to exhibit her declamatory powers. Her first appearance in this city as an actress was made May 7, 1880, when as Dolly Dutton she took the place of Miss Gabrielle Du Sauld in "Hazel Kirke" in the Madison-square Theatre. Early in the following year she was elevated to the part of Hazel, and in it she traveled through the country during the remainder of that season and for a portion of 1881-2. Early in 1882, when classical "Œdipus Tyrannus," with George Riddle speaking Greek in behalf of Harvard College and the others in the cast commanding the best English they possibly could under circumstances so highly aggravating, was brought out in Boston and at Booth's Theatre, this city, Miss Cayvan suffered patiently with the rest, her cheerful duty being to impersonate the kingly widow who marries her own son and gets strangled for it. She was the original Lisa in "The White Slave" at Haverly's Fourteenth-street Theatre, this city, April 3, 1882, and looked the character admirably, as she also did that of the gipsy girl Lura in "The Romany Rye," of which, on Sept. 18, 1882, at Booth's Theatre, she was the original representative in America. All three were special engagements. She is still under contract with the management of the Madison-square Theatre.

WAFTED FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

"NANA SAHIB" was produced at the Theatre Porte St. Martin Dec. 20, with Sarah Bernhardt in the principal role. The house was crowded, as it was expected to be after Sarah's exploit with her riding-whip, as detailed on another page, and a long run is predicted for the piece. The great actress was loudly applauded. A cabling to *The Herald* of Dec. 22 says: "The impersonation of the Hindoo maiden Djamma showed that Sarah Bernhardt had shaken out a new reef and revealed herself in altogether a new aspect. She left her skin undarkened, but in all other respects she was thoroughly Oriental. Her flowing robes and bared arms were most effective. Being Tippoo Rai's daughter, she wore the magnificent raiment of a princess. In richness of material and picturesqueness of effect her costumes last night could not have been surpassed. There was a deep murmur of admiration and astonishment each time she entered in a fresh costume. Her acting was splendid, touching upon all the keys between the most tender, exquisite sentiment and the wildest and most furious passion. In the latter part of the play she has her hand upon a dagger every two minutes, and her constant rehearsals in this sanguinary melodrama perhaps account for the terrible earnestness with which she wielded the now famous horsewhip of Marshal Canrobert on Wednesday. M. Marais in the title-role was rather feeble. It took him a long time to warm up to his work, and finally, when he did so, he began to rant. M. Marais does much better in the role of a modern Parisian gentleman. As an Oriental he is a failure. M. Le Normand might have made much more of his role, but he was effective when he stood on the rampart, shot by his own soldiers, and he died admirably in the typical red coat slashed with gold of the British General. M. Volny as Simron did splendidly, and, after Sarah Bernhardt, carried away the honors of the night. The ballet of Nautch girls was effective. The play was mounted well and was dressed to perfection. The massacre of the English prisoners was well depicted in a manner sufficiently naturalistic to satisfy M. Zola. The curtain falls on forty or fifty men, women and children, all rolling one upon another. The play is very sensational but as a whole is a great success."

THE poet of the Hohenzollern family, Prince George of Prussia, has recently completed another play in French entitled "Mademoiselle Esther," which is said to be based on incidents in the life of Sarah Bernhardt. This is the most bitter injury the Prussians could do the French—worse, by far, than the war of 1870-71.

ACCORDING to *The Pall Mall Gazette*, the production of "Claudian" cost Mr. Wilson Barrett $30,000, and the notice he sent to a New York daily paper cost, for transmission alone, about $1,000.

MONS. BUSHNELL and Kitty Thomas opened in Southampton, Eng., Dec. 3.

EMELIE MELVILLE and her opera company closed their season in Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 16.

THE NEW COMEDY to be produced at the Haymarket when Pinero's play has had its run is entitled "Pampas Grass." The author is a Mr. Morfyus, a new aspirant to fame, who is said to have benefited by the advice of Mr. Bancroft.

THE LADY to whom Oscar Wilde is engaged to be married is Miss Constance Lloyd, daughter of the late Horace Lloyd, G. C.

A NEW musical, farcical comedy was recently produced at the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead. The piece is entitled "Collars and Cuffs," and Henri B. French boasts of its authorship. It is claimed to be a complete success.

MISS MAY HOLT'S new play, "False Pride," with herself as the heroine, will be produced at the Princess' Theatre, Edinburgh, Jan. 28, 1884.

AT THE WALSALL COUNTY COURT, recently, Mr. Hiddon of the Theatre Royal, Wolsall, was sued by Henry J. Byron for damages for allowing "Old Soldiers" to be played without authority. Judgment was given in favor of plaintiff for the amount claimed—$8.

WILLIAM ROSS RINGOLD, father of the popular actors William and George Ringold, recently died, in his eightieth year, at his residence, Hazelwell Cottage, near Birmingham.

A NEW AND ORIGINAL DRAMA, by Charles H. Ross and Charles Osborne, will be produced by Miss Sophie Miles at York, Eng., during the last week in January. Its title is "Passion-flowers."

FREDERIC CLAY, the well-known composer, was stricken with paralysis Dec. 4 in the street while accompanying Mr. Sims to his home from the Alhambra Theatre, London. At last advices he was very seriously ill.

IT IS SAID that one of the attractions of "Nana Sahib," Sarah Bernhardt's recent success, is a Mahratta girl whose father is stated to have been one of the immediate followers of the infamous author of the Cawnpore massacre. She does not fill any important part, but simply carries Bernhardt's fan.

OLIVIER METRA is to lead the orchestra at the Paris Opera masked balls this Winter.

MISS GENEVIEVE WARD terminated her farewell tour of Great Britain at the Theatre Royal, Cork, Ireland, Dec. 7, and recently sailed for Bombay, intending to visit the principal cities of India, but will act only in Bombay and Calcutta, proceeding thence to Ceylon and Melbourne. W. H. Vernon accompanies her.

MISS NELLIE HARRIS has bought the lease of the Novelty Theatre, London, Eng.

MONS. CARVALHO has consented that his pensionnaire, Mlle. Nevada, shall appear at the Norwich, Eng., festival, when Gounod's "Redemption" is to be given. It is said that she is to receive $2,000 and her traveling and hotel expenses for this one performance.

NESTOR AND VENOA were to have opened at the Aquarium, London, Dec. 24.

THE LENTON BROTHERS are with Carre's Circus, Amsterdam.

THE THREE ELTONS are with Sanger's Circus, Ramsgate, Eng. They return here next season to go with Forepaugh.

LEONATI, spiral-bicycle ascensionist, is at Goole's Circus, Manchester.

FRANK MELVILLE is riding at Charles Hengler's Circus, Liverpool, and "Whimsical" Walker is clowning there.

JOHN LE CLAIR is at the Trocadero, London.

"EXCELSIOR" is to be produced by the Kiralfy Brothers in Covent-garden Theatre, London, Easter Monday.

MISS FLORENCE ST. JOHN has been engaged by Alexander Hamilton to represent the heroine when "Nell Gwynne" is produced at the Avenue Theatre, London, in February next.

"CINDERELLA" is to be produced at Drury-lane Theatre, London, on Boxing-night.

EDWIN TERRY in "The Rocket" began an engagement at the Gaiety Theatre, London, Dec. 10, preceding "Fra Diavolo."

LYTTON SOTHERN is to play in England next season, opening in Liverpool Aug. 4.

MINNIE PALMER is to begin a long season in the Strand Theatre, London, Jan. 14, 1884.

TALBOT, Sinclair and West are performing in the London music-halls.

CHESS.

To Correspondents.

C. S. ROHRER.—Glad to hear from you direct; when any news or anything neat in practical chess turns up, please report.

C. E. NOLTENIUS.—If your solution of Problem 1,405 is correct, as it probably is, it still seems to have two solutions, as F. B. Phelps solves it in ten, from 1..K × P. Try that.

J. B. MCGIFFERT.—Your two-move is not solvable. Black K 1.. moves, instead of × B.

E. E. BURLINGAME.—Hearty thanks for information.

I. D. J. S.—The news is very welcome.

J. C. BIRD.—If not taxing your eyes, will you please examine and give us your opinion of Problem 1,405?

Zukertort on American Chess.

Before leaving New York the great master, as genial and lovable as great, left on record with *The Herald* the following as his conclusions of the relative standing of American players and the status of the art among them. It is a most graceful and carefully considered statement, worthy a conspicuously favorite friend and honored master. Dr. Z. says: "Well, there are not nearly so many champions here as there are in England; and as to their abilities—while I have met some excellent amateurs in New York, yet it seems somehow as if chess in your city was a season behind, if I may so express it. Now, in London there are twenty-eight chess clubs of the better class, and I don't know how many little ones besides. The employers of large numbers of clerks have in several instances established chess clubs for their benefit, paying the expenses, which are moderate themselves, and thus affording their employes a better kind of amusement under better surroundings than they would be likely to find otherwise. The son of the owner of *The London News*, who has a large drygoods-store, has established a chess club of this order, others are doing the same thing, and the game of chess is receiving a benefit at the hands of philanthropy. There being so many more clubs, so many more good professional players and a widespread interest in the game in London than here, it follows that your players are a little behind the English in their knowledge of the modern development of the game. I look forward to a time when chess shall be more popular in every large city than it is to-day, for it is a recreation which requires no other stimulant than it possesses inherently, and it exercises the brain without exciting and injuring it. Of course a man may play chess to excess, as he may do anything else to excess; but when taken moderately I believe it is the best amusement that the brain can find." Words fitly spoken, and handling our amateurs with the daintiest of gloves. Let them ponder and profit.

MR. BIRD informs *The Field* that the recent handicap at Purssell's is completed. The victors are: First, H. E. Bird; second, E. T. Smith (sixth-class); third, J. T. Heppell (third-class); fourth, G. Ledger (fourth-class). The affair was so agreeable a success that the participators are going to enlarge and repeat the entertainment. * * * The Book of the London International is out; but we wish to give the notices more space than remains at our disposal this week. * * * Dr. S. Gold's Book of Problems is also out—200 selected from the 1,000 compositions of this gifted and prolific composer. It is pretty significantly hinted that the purchaser must not too critically insist on originality.

Game No. 1,410.

The fortieth game of the great match, by correspondence, between J. Mann, J. P. and H. Charlick, Esq., of Adelaide. Notes from *New Zealand Mail*, by C. W. Benbow.

CENTRE GAMBIT.

White, Mr. Mann.	Black, Mr. Charlick.	White, Mr. Mann.	Black, Mr. Charlick.
1..P to K 4	P to K 4	20..Q R to Q sq	Q to K Kt 3
2..P-Q 4	K P × P	21..Q Kt-his 5	P-Q R 3
3..K B-B 4(a)	K Kt-B 3	22..Q-her R 5(d)	K B-Kt 3
4..K Kt-B 3	K B-Kt 5 +	23..Q Kt-R 7 +	K-Q sq
5..P-Q B 3	Q 2d P × P	24..Q × Q P	K B × Q Kt
6..Kt P × P	K B-B 4	25..Q × Kt P(e)	K B × K Kt
7..K-Kt 5(b)	P-Q 4!	26..Q-B 7 +	K-his 2
8..K B-Kt 5 + !	P-Q B 3	27..B P × B	Q B-R 4(f)
9..K P × Kt	B P × B	28..Q R-K sq +	Q B-K 3
10..Q-K 2 +	Q B-K 3	29..Q-her 6 +(?)	K-B 3
11..Q × Kt P +	Q Kt-Q 2	30..P-K Kt 4	K R-Kt sq
12..B 2d P × P	K R-Kt sq	31..P-Q 5	Q-her 6 !
13..Castles	K R × P	32..P-Kt 5 +	K-his Kt 3
14..Q B-B 4(c)	Q-her Kt 3	33..K R-Q 2	Q × B P
15..Q-her R 4	Castles	34..Q P × B	K-R 4(g)
16..Q Kt-R 3	Q B-B 4	35..Q R-K 3	Q-Kt 5 +
17..K Kt-Q 4	Q B-K 5	36..K R-Kt 2	Q R × P(h)
18..P-K B 3	Q B-Q 6	37..Q-her 3,	and wins an admirably played attack.
19..K R-B 2	Q R-K sq		

At Black's last move he hoped to draw, thus:

37..Q × Q Kt	Q × Q B	39..K to B 2	Q to K B 5 +
38..Q R × R	Q-B 8 +	40..K-his 2	Q-B 5 +, draws.

If White 40..K-home, or to Kt sq, Q to B 8 +, etc.

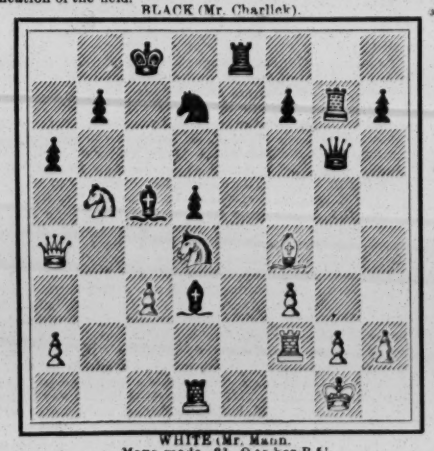
(a) K B to Q 3 is worth trying as a change; an interesting game from it may always be looked for.

(b) Probably the best mode of continuing the attack. From this point the game is very lively and attractive.

(c) White might have won a P here; and, under all the circumstances, we think it would have been judicious.

(d) This and the next move are so ingeniously played and lead to such an ingenious game that we add to Mr. Benbow's notes a delineation of the field.

BLACK (Mr. Charlick).



WHITE (Mr. Mann.
Move made—22..Q to her R 5!

(e) 25..R × B would lead to the immediate loss of the game.

(f) Practically his only move, as White threatens destruction by R to K sq +.

(g) Why not P to Q 5 at once? It seems to us the natural outcome of his position; however, "the end crowns all."

(h) "Farewell, a long farewell, to all my greatness!"

(i) "I'm weary of conjectures—this must end 'em,
Thus am I doubly armed; my death and life,
My bane and antidote, are both before me;
This in a moment brings me to an end."

CHESS IN ELMIRA.—Bro. Burlingame of *The Telegram* kindly informs us that the forthcoming Chess Association Congress is sure to be the largest and most enthusiastic ever held by that body. This would be true if only local entries and interests were concerned; but when it is added that Capt. Mackenzie and Herr Steinitz are both to be present the whole four days, a regular chess furor may be counted on in Western N. Y. and Northern Pennsylvania. The two great masters named are to play some exhibition games, and it is understood there will be a blindfold and simultaneous exhibition. Would we might be there to see and enjoy!—but imperative personal duties forbid.

Solution

OF ENIGMA EXTRA, SEPT. 29, 1883.

White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1..R to B 2	P to K B 4	5..B to Q 6	P to R 6(1)
2..K-Q B 5	K-Q sq	6..Kt P × P	R × R P
3..K-Q B 6	R-K R 2	7..P-Kt 7, and wins.	
4..B-Q B 5	R-K R 3		

(1) If Black 5..R × B; 6..K × R, and P Queens. We have delayed this to receive solutions, but had none. It is pretty.

Enigma No. 1,410.

From the Hartford Times.

BY C. H. WHEELER.

at K Kt, Q Kt 4, K 7, K B 7, Q Kt 7, K Kt 8, Q 3, and 4, K R 2.

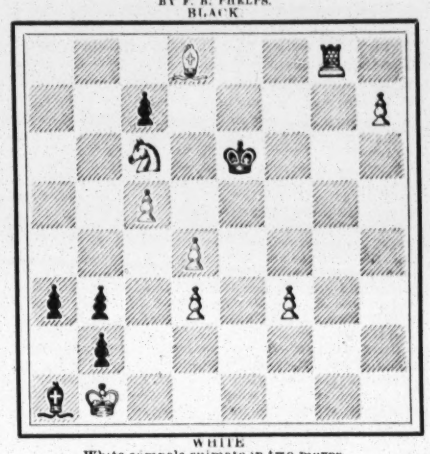
at Q R 8, her B sq, Q R 6, Q B 3, Q R 4, K 6.

Either to play and give mate, or compel sulmate in five moves.

Problem No. 1,410.

BY F. B. PHELPS.

BLACK



WHITE

White compels sulmate in two moves.

Per Contra.

Though the above is Mr. Mann's favorite opening, and that at which he has won the most and most brilliant of his triumphs, he does not always have so good a time as above. Witness the following:

CENTRE GAMBIT.

Mr. Mann.	Mr. Charlick.	Mr. Mann.	Mr. Charlick.
	(Play seven moves as above.)		
8..K P × Kt(i)	Q P × B	20..K to R sq(m)	Q R × B!
9..Q-R 4 +	Q-her 2	21..B P × R	K B × P
10..Q × B P	Q-K 3 +	22..K Kt-B 6	K R × P
11..Q × Q +	Q B × Q	23..Q Kt-Q 2	Kt-B 7 +
12..B 2d P × P	K R-Kt sq	24..K R × Kt	K B × Q R
13..Q B-R 6	Q Kt-B 3	25..Q Kt-K 4(m)	K R-Kt 3
14..K Kt-his 5	Castles	26..K Kt-R 5	Q B-Q 4
15..Kt × R P(k)	Q Kt-K 4!	27..K R-K 2	R B-Q 5(o)
16..Castles	Kt-Kt 5	28..K Kt-B 4(p)	R-Q B 3
17..Q B-Kt 5	Q R-Q 4	29..P-K R 4	K R-B 8 +
18..Q B-B 6	Kt × B P !(l)	30..K-his R 2	Q B-his 5
19..Q B-Q 4	Kt-R 6 + !	31..P-K R 5	R-K B 8, and White resigns.

(i) The present line of operations seems to give him a fair game.

(k) Very tempting, but we think Kt × B would have proved more beneficial. The reply is admirable.

(l) "A hit, a very palpable hit."

(m) P × Kt was inferior, *e. g.*: 20..P × Kt, R × P +; 21..Kt to B 2, R × B; 22..P × B, B × P +, etc.

(n) K Kt to B 4 would have been better.

(o) The superiority of two B's over two Kt's is well illustrated in this end-game.

(p) Ingenious but unsound, as it permits Black to win right off in a very neat manner.

CHECKERS.

To Correspondents.

["The compliments of the season."]

A. J. DE FREEST.—Those games, eh?

J. "NO LEGS."—Solutions O. K.

C. F. BARKER.—Yours received and referred to proper authority.

H. Z. WRIGHT.—THE CLIPPER is on exchange with *Blade*, and is regularly forwarded as usual.

Game No. 41, Vol. 31.

Played at Dunfermline, between Mr. Martins and J. McDonald.

"BRISTOL." [*Glasgow Herald.*]

Black, Martins.	White, McDonald.	Black, Martins.	White, McDonald.
1..11 to 16	24 to 20	25..27 to 31	12 to 8
2..16 to 19	23 to 16	26..31 to 27	8 3
3..12 to 19	27 to 23(a)	27..27 to 24	3 7
4..8 to 12	23 to 16	28..24 to 27	7 3
5..12 to 19	31 to 27	29..6 to 10	11 16
6..4 to 8	27 to 23	30..10 to 15	3 8
7..8 to 12	23 to 16	31..15 to 18	16 11
8..12 to 19	32 to 27	32..18 to 22	25 18
9..3 to 8	27 to 23	33..23 to 14	8 12
10..8 to 12	23 to 16	34..14 to 10	12 16
11..12 to 19(b)	30 to 16	35..27 to 23	29 25
12..10 to 15	16 to 12	36..5 to 9	16 20
13..7 to 10	12 to 8	37..10 to 7	11 16
14..9 to 14	8 to 4	38..9 to 14	25 22
15..19 to 24	28 to 19	39..7 to 10	22 18
16..15 to 24	4 to 8	40..1 to 6	18 9
17..24 to 27	8 to 11	41..6 to 13	16 19
18..14 to 18	22 to 15	42..23 to 16	20 11
19..10 to 19	11 to 16	43..2 to 6	30 26
20..19 to 24	16 to 11	44..10 to 14	26 23
21..27 to 32	26 to 23	45..6 to 10	11 16
22..32 to 27	23 to 19	46..10 to 15	16 20
23..27 to 23	19 to 16	47..15 to 18	20 24
24..24 to 27	16 to 12	Drawn.	

NOTES FOR STUDENTS, BY THE EDITOR.

(a) 22 to 18 draws. See Janvier's Anderson.

(b) This repetition of manœuvres is curious to the student. With correct play the draw must ensue.

Solution of Position No. 76, Vol. 31.

BY P. M. BRADT.

White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1..2 to 6	9 to 14	4..9 to 14(a)	17 to 22
2..11 15	31 26.1)	5..12 8(b)	4 18
3..6 9	14 17	6..14 30	White wins.
	(1)		
2..	31 27	5..10 14	17 21
3..6 10	14 17	6..18 22	24 19
4..15 18	27 24	7..14 30	White wins by first position.

(a and b) The only moves to win.—P. M. B.

SOLUTION OF POSITION No. 77, Vol. 31, is reserved until next week. [In this position White is to move and win, which was omitted.—ED.]

Position No. 78, Vol. 31. Position No. 79, Vol. 31.

BY C. B. AUGUSTINE. [For students.]

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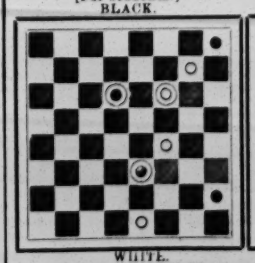

WHITE.
White to move and win.

BY C. F. BARKER.

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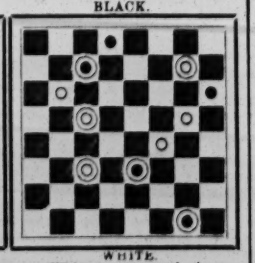

WHITE.
White to move and win.

PAIR OF MULES LOST ON A WAGER.—A novel wager was decided at the Fair Grounds in Sherman, Texas, recently. The bet was that a mule could not move a sack of salt ten feet, the mule being at one end of a 200ft. rope, two inches in diameter, and the salt tied to the other end, the mule not to waver more than two and a half feet either way from a straight line in pulling, and if the sack were not moved in the first pull three trials were to be had. The stakes were $125 against a pair of mules. On the first pull the sack of salt was moved four feet. Considerable money changed hands on the result. The loser turned over the lost mules with a grace and dignity befitting the occasion.

A FLEA THEATRE.

DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT GIVEN BY A COMPANY OF FLEAS AT NANTZIG.

A correspondent of *The Pall Mall Gazette* sends the following from Nantzig: There was a fair going on outside the gates of this most picturesque old city. Wandering among the booths, our curiosity was excited by one which bore the following inscription: "Pariser Floh Theatre." The theatre was about the size of an ordinary tambourine, which instrument it greatly resembled. We looked with interest at certain cardboard boxes which stood beside the theatre. One of these was open and showed a number of tiny vehicles, carriages, bicycles, engines, Roman chariots, all as minute as possible. The other boxes, with lids, contained the actors themselves. The enterprising manageress, a stout lady in a cotton dressing-gown, placed herself opposite at the table and prefaced the entertainment with a short but interesting address: "The ordinary domestic flea," she began, "is a creature of considerable intelligence and capable of a high degree of intellectual cultivation. We have no less than 300 in this establishment. They are not hungry," she added hastily, in answer to some slight expression of anxiety that doubtless portrayed itself on our countenances. "I engage a man to come every day and feed them."

HOW THEY FEED.

He bares his arm, the 300 are placed thereon, and they suck until they are satisfied. Our immediate apprehensions thus allayed, the lady proceeded to explain that the first process in the great work of taming and educating a flea was to fasten an invisible gold thread around its neck, by means of which it could be lifted at pleasure or harnessed to any of the vehicles displayed in the box before us. A well-nurtured specimen will often live to the age of eight years, and with evident pride she remarked: "We have several among our troupe who are already six years old," and so saying she handed us a powerful microscope and gratified us by the sight of one of these venerable fleas (magnified to the size of a wasp) kicking and plunging violently, in no wise impeded by the weight of its golden collar. The entertainment began with a chariot race by fleas of various nations. The Russian was attached to its native drosky, the Siberian to a sledge. England, France and Germany had each their representatives, the former harnessed, I think, to a common London omnibus. Each competitor was supposed to be able to draw a body of six times its own weight. The stage was slightly tilted, however, in order to assist the runners.

A FLEA BALLET.

Next we were treated to a ballet, as danced by some really superior artists. The lady opened the cardboard boxes and extracted thence with a delicate pair of pincers a dozen of dancing fleas, each elegantly attired in—or rather, I should perhaps say, covered by—a petticoat of tissue paper, red, blue, green yellow—all the colors of the rainbow. Each dancer was announced by name as she entered upon the scene. Meess Elizabet, Fraulien Anna, Mamzelle Barbe and others, and each and all, encouraged by the voice of their directress, performed the most astonishing evolutions, whirling and hoping, skipping, leaping wildly into the air in a way that was comical to behold. It was as if the minutest of ballet girls had been cut in two at the waist, the lower half performing minus the head and shoulders, or like a Sabbatical dance of fairy lampshades bewitched. Now and again, after some unusually prodigious leap, an artist would be upset. Then, beneath the gay voluminous skirts, the struggling insect was for a moment visible, quickly replaced on its legs, however, by the watchful care of its mistress. Now came act the third, when the interest was supposed to culminate, and with much verbal flourish of trumpets a female rope-dancer was produced, second only in renown to th efamous Blondin himself. This young lady's name was Eliza. She lived in a nest of cotton wool, with one other companion, who was probably in delicate health, as she was not called upon to perform. Eliza not only danced upon a rope, but twice traversed an imaginary unfathomable abyss on a nearly invisible wire suspended between two pins.

BURNT CORK.

HOW IT IS MANUFACTURED AND HOW IT IS PUT ON THE FACE.

The popular impression about the application of burnt cork by minstrel performers, which every man has absorbed from his own childhood's experience in the minstrelsy business, when the barn-loft served as a theatre, is that it is rubbed on the face and hands of the performer from a cork whose end is charred in a convenient gas jet or candle-flame; but this, like most popular impressions, is incorrect. To supply the burnt cork used by minstrel performers of this city occupies the entire time and earnest attention of one interesting character. A little man, whose place of business is on the curbstone on the north-side of Pine street, halfway between Kearney and Dupont, and whose head reaches only a little way above the top of the barrel in which much of his work is done, has for fifteen years been preparing burnt cork and doing nothing else. His personality has absorbed so much from his business that he does not look entirely unlike a huge cork, which, if tossed on the bay, would bob about with the tide in a pleasant sort of way. He is rather grimy, too, like a half-burnt cork. "The business," he explained to a *Call* reporter who chatted with him as he worked, "is not what it used to be. There is more burnt-cork talent to be supplied, but where I used to get $1.50 a pound for the article I make I only get 50 cents now. What is the process of making it? Well, you see, I first gather my corks. I get them from the big bottling-houses, mostly, who buy lots of bottles—many of them with corks that wouldn't keep the air out of wine or beer. I pay 4c. a pound there, but sometimes I make a ten-strike in the suburbs where I find a saloon or restaurant with a barrel of corks they are glad to get rid of for 2c. a pound. When I get ready to burn I put the corks into those three washboilers you see there with holes punched in their sides and bottom, sprinkle alcohol over them and set them afire. Then I fill one of these muslin sacks with the charred cork, and knead the sack in this barrel of water. That forces the powdered charcoal through the sack into the water. I am troubled now with the tin that lots of beer-bottlers put on the top of their corks, and the wire from wine-bottles. Sometimes they get into this sack and tear it, and I must look out for that. When I have worked all my charred corks through this sack into the water, I drain the water through a close canvas sack you see in that frame there, and what remains in the canvas sack is ready for the artists. I put it up in one-pound tins, and they use it out of them. When a performer is ready to 'black up,' as they call it, he takes a little of this black paste in his hands and washes his face, neck and hands in it, and he is blacked as you see him on the stage."

As the reporter saw the manufactured article it was a blue-black paste of the consistency of tooth-paste.

"Emerson's Minstrels use about a pound a night of the cork, and Courtright & Hawkins' nearly as much. The blacked performers of the Adelphi and Bella Union each have to buy their own cork, but the minstrel managers furnish to the performers. The cellars (dives) use about a pound a week each. Sometimes a snide show tries to beat me out of my pay, but I always get even with them. How? Why, I just put a little oil of turpentine in the cork paste, and they have a hard time getting it off. Once one of those ten-cent minstrel shows that give performances in Union Hall tried to beat me. I put turpentine in their cork, and a performer who had to wash up to do a Dutch act couldn't get the cork off his face, and he had to do his Dutch act in black. That was enough fun for me. It don't hurt the skin a bit to put it on, but some of the performers put on glycerine and vaseline to protect their skins. That is what gives the shiny look to their faces you see on some performers. It don't do them any good, and makes it harder to wash the cork off."—*San Francisco Call.*

PETER GATES' FALL.

Peter Gates is superintending the work of the mine of the Gunnison Mining and Exchange Company of this city, which is in Treasure Mountain, Gunnison County, Colorado. The great altitude of the mine brings Winter about it very early. As early as the middle of September snowstorms commenced. Peter writes that he left the cabin with his report and vouchers ready for mailing, an overcoat belonging to one of the men and a gunny sack filled with clothing, and all strapped together on his back, all in "apple-pie" order, and then:

"I fell over the cliff on my way down. I intended it to be my last trip for several months, but it came near being my last in fact. I had gotten 100 feet above the cabin when a snow-slide turned loose, knocking me instantly from the trail. For the first 400 or 500 feet I struck the ground but four or five times, and my last fall from the top of a precipice to its bottom was about 120 feet. It seems incredible that I could have tumbled down three successive precipices without being killed, but everything was in my favor. The pack I was carrying and the snow which I went down with helped break my fall. I am badly bruised about the hips and body, but with rest and a lower altitude the doctor thinks I will come out all right in a month or so."

The cliff which Peter was swept from has an almost perpendicular height of a thousand feet from the bottom of the precipice, and it was the great masses of snow which had accumulated on its sides that broke Peter's fall every hundred feet, and then went on down with him to the next one. In January last a man was swept off the trail by an avalanche in a similar manner, and dropped into the abyss a thousand feet below, and has never been recovered.—*Davenport Gazette.*

THEATRICAL RECORD.

Continued from page 697.

IDAHO.

Ketchum.—James Fitzsimmons' enterprise in furnishing the citizens of this Western town with a hall for amusement purposes is evidently appreciated, as will be seen by the appended notice of the structure and the dedication:

FITZSIMMONS' METROPOLITAN HALL—THE MOST ELABORATE STRUCTURE IN THE TERRITORIES.—Through the courtesy of Mr. James Fitzsimmons we were shown through Fitzsimmons' Metropolitan Hall yesterday, and beheld one of the handsomest establishments in the Territories. The building measures 34x90x32½ft in the clear, and is finished with smooth tongue and groove flooring and ceiling. On the first floor the grand saloon is 25x70x15½ft; the reading-room in the rear is 20x25, while toilet-room, janitor's room, private office and two conversation-rooms are each 7x12. The most elaborate portion of the inside consists of the magnificent heavy black walnut cabinet-work which forms the partitions between the reading-room and private office and the grand saloon. The cabinet work, on which the freight alone from the East cost upwards of $1,500, is made entirely of solid black-walnut timber, handsomely polished and adjusted, and elaborately ornamented with large lights of heavy, French plate glass, and mounted with carved mouldings of walnut. On the door of the reading-room the words "Reading-room" are beautifully lettered in the glass portion of the door, as is also the door of the private office lettered with the words "Office," while on a window adjoining is similarly arranged the word "Cashier." The bar is a costly one, and is twenty-five feet in length of heavy walnut, containing fine planished copper-lined drains, with separate compartments for three barkeepers, and covered with a very handsome top of imported mahogany. The top is five inches thick and finely polished. The sideboards are built of solid walnut, marble-covered, and ornamented with beautiful tops. Between them stand costly mirrors of pebble-glass, which extend from the floor to a height of thirteen and one-half feet. From the ceiling hang brilliant silver-plated prismatic chandeliers, and on the walls will be six very rich landscape oil-paintings purchased at private sale in New York City, the largest of which is 4x6 feet. On the whole, the interior of the grand saloon will present the most magnificent display of furnishing to be seen anywhere in the Territories and one that is rarely met with in the larger cities of the East. The cost of furnishing this one room is not less than $8,000.

The exterior of the building will be lighted up by five large ornamented street-lamps.

The hall up stairs is reached by a broad stairway in front, and will be for balls, lectures, concerts, theatrical and general amusement purposes. The hall is 34x90x17 feet in the clear. The floor is made of close jointed tongue and groove lumber. The entire plan and structure of the establishment is well worthy the title of "Metropolitan," as it is, indeed, the most metropolitan place we have seen or read of in Idaho or Montana. Mr. Fitzsimmons is a man of liberal public views, and once having found a plan of action he goes ahead with unusual enterprise. He has invested a large sum of money, but not unwisely. He cannot fail to behold the inevitable brightness in store for the future of Ketchum, and has led out with that assurance. Building enterprise, like everything else, must have a beginning, and our people can boast of an estimable leader in him. Since his enterprise has started we hear rumors of other elaborate structures to be built in the near future, and feel that every effort to give importance to Idaho is supported by the cheeriest prospects.

THE DEDICATION.—The dedication of Fitzsimmons' Metropolitan Hall was a great success. It was dedicated on Dec. 4, '83, by the A. O. U. W. grand ball. The guests were from various sections of Idaho. The hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion by the members of the fraternity with evergreens, flags, emblems, etc. At the head of the hall the fraternity's emblem, consisting of a large evergreen anchor, bearing a red shield, upon which were lettered in gold the initials A. O. U. W., was artistically arranged, while several smaller designs lent their attraction to the hall. The music was furnished by Prof. Delius' Orchestra, and the supper, served by Mr. S. H. Goodban, was a great display of the culinary art.

The attendance was large; well filling the hall, though as many as fourteen sets were upon the floor in several instances. From Hailey, Idaho, were Mr. and Mrs. Morrill, Mr. and Mrs. Van Ness, Miss Lillie Moore, Mrs. Geo. M. Parsons, Miss Edmunds, Mrs. McCallum, Mrs. Congdon and another lady; among other gentlemen were S. J. Friedman, Major Hyndman, John M. Cannady and the Messrs. Congdon. Bellevue, Idaho, was represented by Mrs. and Miss Gallagher, Mrs. Bixby, Mrs. Hicks, the Misses Huntington, the Misses Furey and two other ladies, altogether about ten couples. From up the Wood-river Country, Idaho, about six couples attended, and many other couples from different sections of Idaho. It was expected by Mr. James Fitzsimmons to have the hall finished in time, so that the A. O. U. W. might be enabled to send invitations to the Presidential party when they were on their pleasure trip through the West. The great rich mineral resources of Idaho around Ketchum would have greatly astonished the Presidential party. The ladies who attended the ball may be congratulated on presenting a very brilliant display of the fashions. A large number of pretty dresses were worn, but we mention only the most noteworthy. Miss Gallagher, blue brocade satin, princess style; Mrs. McLennan, "ecru" satin and maroon plush; Mrs. Bemis, black silk with plush trimmings and "chinelle," and diamond jewels; Mrs. Judge, embroidered black silk; Mrs. Steel, black satin and brocade velvet; Mrs. Condon, maroon silk and plush; Mrs. Gillette, black velvet and satin; Mrs. Greenhow, "ecru" satin with lace trimmings; Mrs. Richardson, brown silk; Miss Dollarhide, combination blue satin and maroon velvet; Mrs. Mensch, black silk, with lace overdress; Miss Clary, black velvet and satin; Mrs. Pilsner, blue satin, garnet jewels; Mrs. Gallagher, black velvet; Mrs. Newton, brown striped silk; Mrs. Stevens, green satin; Mrs. Van Ness, garnet silk; Miss Lillie Moore, stone-colored silk with lace; Miss Furey, combination black velvet and stone silk; Miss Edmunds, mull, with lace trimmings; Mrs. A. C. Lewis, black silk, with satin overdress; Mrs. Motherwell, black silk. The dancing continued until 4 o'clock A. M., at the end of the ball the band playing "Home, Sweet Home." All who were so fortunate as to be present express themselves as having had a delightful time, and the A. O. U. W. Ball in Fitzsimmons' Metropolitan Hall, Ketchum, Idaho, will long be remembered as a grand affair in the history of the great, rich, mineral Wood River country of Idaho.—*The Ketchum* (Idaho) *Keystone.*

MICHIGAN.

Grand Rapids.—Mestayer & Barton's "Hix's Fix" had a good audience at Powers' Opera-house Dec. 18. Marie Prescott in "Czeka" played to good business 19, 20.....Smith's Opera-house did a big business the past week. The openings Dec. 24 were English and Cahill, the Gerry Sisters, Sherwood and Williams, and Emma La Mause. The closures 22 were Lena Rivers, Sheffer and Blakely, Ward and Lynch, and Alice Evans.

Detroit.—Marie Prescott made her first appearance as a star in this city at the Opera-house 24 as Czeka the Jewess. The lady was greeted by a fair house, and gave a powerful impersonation. She was accorded a heavy reception, and had eight curtain-calls during the performance—something rare here. She is to remain all the week. Oscar Wilde's play "Vera" will be put on 28, 29. Both of these pieces are new here. The Howard Athenæum Company gave an excellent variety bill first three nights of last week. Maud Beverly made a very favorable impression. Baker and Farron followed, producing "Government House" the last three nights of the week. The piece did not take, and quite an array of empty seats was noticed at each performance. Rice's Surprise Party is announced for week of 31, Clara Morris week of Jan. 14, 1884.

WHITNEY'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Thorne's "Black Flag" Company opened for the week 24 to an audience large enough to be renumerative. This company has been here all the past week, enjoying a holiday. W. J. Scanlan is booked for 31. "Her Atonement" drew moderately last week. Three consecutive weeks of melodrama, embracing "Romany Rye," "Her Atonement" and "The Black Flag," are too much for this city, and indicate bad judgment in management.

WHITE'S.—Flockton's "Flying Dutchman" and the Holman Opera Company are the Christmas attractions at this house. The "Flying Dutchman" Company opened 24 to good business. Pat Rooney, who is always a favorite here, did very large business the fore part of last week. He was followed by William Stafford, who was seen then for the first time in this city in tragic roles. He received a very warm reception. Miss Foster, his leading-lady, showed great capability as an actress, her Ophelia being a particularly delicate piece of acting.

PARK THEATRE.—The new arrivals 24 were Annie Hindle, Prof. Samuel's Circus, including a dog, goat and monkey, Sheffer and Blakely, John and Lottie Burton, Crandell and Eastwood, Doland Bros., Lulu Wentworth and Grace Darling. C. S. Sullivan's Female Mastodons were well patronized last week. Business was profitable night of 24.

PHIL MILLIGAN'S DIME MUSEUM.—Dan Nash and wife and Macauley in specialties will be the principal attractions this week. Capt. Bates is due 31. The usual large patronage was maintained last week. Whitfield departed 22.

IN GENERAL.—P. O. Hudson's Specialty Company rested here a few days last week. After reorganizing, the company proceeded upon its route, playing in Birmingham 20. John D. Walker is business-manager.....Madam Rowald and husband of the Abbott Opera Company have been offered the positions respectively of soprano and organist in the Church of Our Father, this city, at very large salaries. They have the matter now under consideration. The madam has sung in the church several times.....H. J. Putnam, ex-treasurer of Whiting's Opera-house, was presented 18 with a bronze clock by the attachés of the house. He left to accept the treasurership of the new Standard Theatre, Chicago. May he always "come to time."....J. L. Ashton of "The Black Flag" Company has been spending the past week with his family.....John S. McConnell, treasurer of Haverly's Theatre, Chicago, has been in town all the week. He says he will visit Havana, Cuba, in February, to arrange for a tour of Lathrop & Johnston's Folly Company.....David F. Fox, ex-attorney and ex-captain of the City Light Guards, is playing leading business with George Miln's Company.....Dave Puyser, manager of Marie Prescott, was in town last week.....Marie Prescott is considering an offer from a well-known manager to star in England and Scotland.....The Pan-handle Railroad has settled with Miles Orton the circus-manager for the damage done his circus and menagerie in the recent smash-up on that road. The company repaired his wagons, furnished him with three new cars, and paid him $3,500 for the animals killed and chariot demolished. The remainder of the show is now in Winter-quarters at Norris, Mich.....C. S. Wallace of this city and James Anderson of Columbus, O., will start out from Peru, Ind., early in the Spring with a wagon-show, made up principally of remnants from Coup's Circus, which stranded here Summer before last.....Blanche Vaughan of Roland Reed's Company is to star next season in a comedy entitled "Have You Any Letters?" written for her, it is said, by Roland Reed.....Edward Wetzel, who has been playing his own drama "Clayton Lodge" through the West, has completed a farcical comedy, which is being negotiated for by a prominent organization.....J. P. Slocum of Maud Granger's "Second Love" Company, is spending the holidays with his family. The company is resting for ten days.....Roland Reed has had a new play written for him that he will shortly produce. It is now being rehearsed by the company.....Fred W. Baker, a journalist on *The Toledo Blade*, has assumed the management of the Agnes Wallace-Villa Company.

AT BUCK'S OPERA-HOUSE, Lansing, "Our Summer Boarders" Company was to have opened 24. Flockton's "Flying Dutchman" is due 31. Abbott Opera Company in "Chimes of Normandy" 17 was the only attraction last week. A very large audience was present.

RICE'S "FUN ON THE BRISTOL" COMPANY is the Christmas attraction at the Academy, East Saginaw. "Hix's Fix" 20 and a "Banker's Daughter" company 22 drew profitable business. Minnie Hauk was to have sung 18, but a sore throat prevented her appearing.

WISCONSIN.

Milwaukee.—At the Grand Opera-house McCaull's Opera Comique Company opened Dec. 24 for one week, giving "Prince Mathusalem," "Princess of Trebizonde" and "Queen's Lace Handkerchief." "Nobody's Claim" closed a fair engagement of three nights 23. Mestayer's Tourists (Manager H. W. Brown) occupied the house first three nights of last week to poor business. Sol Smith Russell is billed for one week 31.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Fish's Circus, which opened Dec. 14 for ten days, closed 19, owing to very poor business. The performances given were good, and deserved better patronage. Chas. L. Davis opens 23 for four nights. Canary's American Four 28, 29, 30. Daly's "7-20-8" opens 31 for four nights. Fay Templeton follows for one week.

SLENSBY'S THEATRE.—A large business was done the past week, the houses being crowded almost nightly. New faces Dec. 24: Hulmes and Orville, Laura Lake, Ida Nelson, Baughman and Aldine, Harry Barrett, Caldwell and Ritchie, Cummings and Reed, Lizzie Aldine, Paus Le Petre and Mable Gray. Departures 23: Ida Martine, Chas. J. Gregory, J. G. Fletcher, Gillett Bros., Jennie Mason, Gregory Bros., Mullen and Ward, and Onzalo.

DIME MUSEUM.—The attraction the past week were the Irish Giant and Giantess and Sprague. Business continues large.

THE LIVING SKELATON WASTING AWAY.—Isaac S. Sprague, the living skeleton, who is forty years old, and has been reduced by atrophy to forty pounds weight, said to a *N. Y. Times* correspondent in this city on Dec. 22, in regard to a rumor that he had given his body in the interest of science to the Harvard Medical College: "Yes, the story is true, and all arrangements have just been completed. I have agreed that when I die they shall have my body; they will first cut it open and make a post-mortem examination to find out if possible why I am so thin; then they will put the body in alcohol and place it in the museum of the college, where it will remain; but I'm going to need it myself for the present; they can't have it till I get through with it. My body will be preserved in the museum there, as that of Calvin Edson is in the Albany Museum. Edson died at the age of forty-five, weighing only forty-five pounds. The doctors, when they cut him open, found that his thinness was caused by narrowing of the thoracic duct, a trouble with which other members of his family were affected. His face and neck were emaciated like the rest of his body, but mine are not; so my thinness is probably due to something else. The physicians pronounce it to be an extreme case of progressive muscular atrophy. It has been going on for thirty years, while the longest other case on record is that of a man who died after having the complaint for ten years." Sprague is in a very feeble condition, and it is believed that he cannot live much longer.

ILLINOIS.

Chicago.—Haverly's Theatre was fairly filled Dec. 23, Roland Reed and his company then commencing a week's engagement in "Cheek." George C. Miln attracted only fair patronage the week ending 22. Next week "The Romany Rye," and Henry Irving is due Jan. 7.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sol Smith Russell in "Edgewood Folks" opened the week 23 and attracted a good audience. The McCaull Opera Company in "Prince Methusalem" closed a fairly successful engagement 22. Thatcher, Primrose & West's Minstrels open 30.

HOOLEY'S THEATRE.—Daly's Second Company entered its second week 23, presenting "The Passing Regiment" to a fair-sized audience, Miss Helene Bijou Heron playing the part of Telka Escoff. "The Squire" was withdrawn 22, after a week of only fair patronage. Edwin Thorne's "Black Flag" Company opens 30.

MCVICKER'S THEATRE.—Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence entered their second week 24 in "Facts," and drew only a light attendance. The same play will be given at the extra matinee to-day (25). "The Mighty Dollar" will be put on at night, and continue during the week until 29, when "Facts" will close the engagement. Business was rather poor last week. Dec. 31, "Young Mrs. Winthrop," for the first time in this city. "Siberia" will be produced Jan. 7.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC was well filled 24, "The Hoop of Gold" forming the attraction. Neil Burgess in "Vim" played to large audiences the week ending 23.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Joe J. Sullivan's "Maloney's Raffle" Combination opened 24 to a big house. In the olio appeared Little Mac, the Little Four, McAvoy and Rogers, Gibson and Ryan, Frank Campbell, Isabel Ward, Tommy Watson and the Lincoln Grays. Canary's American Four Company closed a week of good business 23.

GRENIER'S LYCEUM.—This theatre, destroyed by fire ten weeks ago, now handsomely rebuilt and on a very much larger scale than before, was formally reopened 24, with good business as an encouraging start. Castle's Celebrities being the opening attraction. Among the specialists were Neil Smith, Mary Milton, Charles Diamond, Lillie Ellis, Billy Maloney, Mabel Gray, Charles A. Loder, Antonio, Charles O. and Gertie Seaman, Mason and Ralston, Madeline, and Frank Charvat. A sketch entitled "Hilarity" concluded the programme.

This house has been rebuilt in superior style, making it one of the finest and largest vaudeville theatres west of New York. The building is of brick, and presents an imposing front which is to be painted white. Its conspicuous feature is an immense oriole-window that extends upward through five stories of the building, and is capped with fine ornamentation. The entrance to the auditorium is pleasingly decorated, and presents a slightly inclined plane instead of the old step system. The box-office is sunk in the wall, and presents no obstacle to the freedom of exit. The lobby has a free space 12x56 feet, and is frescoed in a style to correspond with the entrance. The auditorium is large, well ventilated, and a good view of the stage may be obtained from every seat, and it has six hundred and eighty-seven folding-chairs. The balcony has a free circular sweep and an easy rise, with 743 folding-seats. The circle of the gallery conforms in shape to that of the balcony, and the benches in its incline afford seating accommodations for 780. The seating capacity of the house is 2,210. There are four proscenium private-boxes of galvanized iron, treated with colors of light blue and gold, with hangings of red plush. The ceiling has been prettily and effectively decorated, by Mr. Barker, in conventional pattern, Queen Anne style, involving red, gold and brown colors over a body of blue. The large sunburner, set in a blue field studded with silver stars, forms the central feature, from whose large limiting square the decorations radiate. The body color of the walls is terra-cotta, with a light frieze and a heavy color dado that extends about and above the high, dark stained, wooden dado. The proscenium opening, 28x34 feet, of galvanized iron, is treated in color to correspond with the general decoration of the house, and has a paneled flat arch that aids the acoustics and permits good decorative effect. The stage, 35x56 feet, is well equipped with all the modern improvements, and the "gridiron" is 56 feet above the stage level. The proscenium is a solid brick arched wall that extends four feet above the roof, complying with the fire ordinance. On either side of the stage in the rear of the boxes are four dressing-rooms, and also four on either side beneath the stage, that are heated, supplied with water, etc. There are ten exits, four from the front, four from the rear and two from the sides.

CRITERION THEATRE.—"A Mountain Pink" was presented 24, and attracted a fair attendance. Miss Laura E. Dainty succeeds Miss Louise Sylvester in the leading role after the present week. "The Seven Sisters" did a good business week ending 23.

GERMAN THEATRE.—Sardou's "Dora" was presented by Isenstein's Dramatic Company Sunday evening, 23, to poor patronage.

CENTRAL MUSIC HALL.—A novel entertainment is announced 29, viz., a banjo prize-concert, in which a number of female performers will appear. The Yale Glee Club will give a concert Jan. 3.

NATIONAL THEATRE.—Othello is the attraction this week, presented by the stock company. Julius Scott in "The Hand of Justice" closed 22.

HALSTED-STREET OPERA-HOUSE.—"Flowers of the Forest" was produced 24 to good business. D. H. Fitzpatrick in "Shaun-a-Gow" closed 23.

CHICAGO MUSEUM.—The special attractions this week include the Spanish Students, the Musical Electro Daumascope and a long list of freaks. The place is well patronized.

GRENIER'S CIRCUS.—Among the new features this week are Sallie Marks, William Showles, Satsuma, Young Hercules, Fred Aymar and others.

KOHL & MIDDLETON'S MUSEUMS.—The South-side place presents a new invoice of curiosities this week, and Whitfield's Specialty Troupe terminates the stage performances. At the West-side house, Zeltner's Pantomime Company give a Christmas festival, assisted by Christie's Specialty Company. Both places attract a large number of visitors.

STANDARD THEATRE.—This new place of amusement is announced to be formally opened 31 by the Fay Templeton Opera Company; W. J. Ferguson as "The Dude" to follow Jan. 7. The theatre will be under the management of Messrs. Whitney & Dyer.

DRAMATIC NOTINGS.—"Van, or Condemned at Last," is the title of a new four-act emotional drama by George J. Vanhouten of this city.....The Elks' annual benefit takes place at Haverly's Theatre Jan. 13.....The "Mountain Pink" Company rested in this city last week.....The Hyers Colored Concert Company closed its season at Hershey Hall 18 after performing two nights, Manager Eddy unfeelingly requiring hall-rent.....Wm. J. Butler, leading-man of the Phosa McAllister troupe, attached the company's baggage in this city 19 for an unpaid salary account. The matter was compromised.....Jacques Martin has joined Daly's Second Company.....Manager Brennan of "Fun in a Boarding-school" is here to engage people for his company.....W. K. French of the Daisy Hooker Combination has returned to Chicago, and is with the Cambridge Dramatic Agency.....M. L. Berry, advertising-agent of the Grand Opera-house, joined Harry Webber's Company at Chillicothe, O., 24.....Roland Reed's Company rested in Chicago last week.....Miss Minerva Guernsey, leading-lady, severed her connection with George C. Miln's Company at the close of the Chicago engagement.

MUSICAL MOVEMENTS.—The Schubert Quartet, just organized, consists of E. T. and W. B. Stone, J. W. Juleson and J. F. Wilkinson.... "The Golden Asp" of Miss Eleanor Smith was produced 21 at Hershey Music Hall, and attracted a large audience....Mme. Nelson Rousseville gave a musicale at the Palmer House 21....The oratorio of "The Creation" will be given by the Apollo Club at Central Music Hall Jan. 4. There will be a chorus of 200 voices under the direction of Mr. Tomlins. Jennie Dutton will sing the soprano part in place of Miss Dora Henninges, who has been called to Cleveland on account of the serious illness of her mother....The wedding of Miss Jeannie Herrick and Charles H. Clark of the Chicago Ideals is announced for January.....Jessie Bartlett-Davis will make her reappearance on the concert stage at the next First-regiment Concert at Armory Hall Jan. 12.....The Schumann Lady Quartet now consists of Mrs. J. A. Farwell, Mrs. J. C. Buckbee, Mrs. J. Balfour and Miss Pauline Rommeiss.....Miss Fannie Blumenfeld, a young Chicagoan who has studied four years in Vienna, will make her first public appearance in America Jan. 11 in the concert of the Beethoven Society.

AT THE GRAND OPERA-HOUSE, Peoria, the Wilbur Opera Company is billed for Dec. 25, 26 and matinee. "The Romany Rye" Company—J. W. Morrissey, business-manager—28, 29, Theodore Thomas Jan. 1. Modjeska appeared in "As You Like It" Dec. 14 to the largest audience of the season.

LOUISIANA.

New Orleans.—At the St. Charles Theatre the Hanlons, after an absence of several years, opened Dec. 23 to a packed house. The Royal Marionettes closed 22 after doing a fair business for one week.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—Emma Abbott's English-opera Company commenced a season of one week Dec. 23. "Moths," by Clara Morris' supporting company, closed a week 22, Miss Morris resting for that time. It would doubtless have proved more profitable had "Moths" been put on during Miss Morris' off-nights, instead of the "The Ticket-of-leave Man."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Dion Boucicault closed Dec. 22, having drawn large audiences at every performance. Minnie Maddern was to have succeeded him 23; but, on account of railroad misconnection, she failed to arrive, and the theatre was closed. She opened to-night, 24, and had a fair house.

FRENCH OPERA-HOUSE.—The latest productions are "Le Trouvere," "Rigoletto," "La Juive," "Traviata," and "Le Prophete" for the first time in twelve years. Our correspondent telegraphs Dec. 25: "The season will prematurely close Jan. 4, 1844. The box-office has been attached for arrearages; but tickets are sold at barroom next door. Manager Defossez attributes his failure to very small receipts. He announces that he will take his troupe to Havana, Cuba, immediately after closing here; but, as several Sheriffs are about the building, and are watching the stage-door most vigilantly, I do not see how he will take his wardrobe, scenes, etc., with him."

FARANTA'S PAVILION.—Arrivals: Delmar and Wilson, Crimmins and Doyle, and Joseph Leon. Closed: Andy Morris and Miss Maussey. The Blitz Combination have reopened.

GORMAN'S PAVILION.—Arrivals: The Moore Sisters, Mabel Francis, Mrs. E. R. Dalton, Marie Dearing, the Harpers, E. R. Dalton, Dan Howe, John Barrett, Joe Oliver, Charles Benedict, and Baker and Ward.

DONALDSON'S DIME MUSEUM.—Prof. C. A. Donaldson has a museum at the corner of Decatur and Esplanade streets, near the French Market, with Miss Isabel, fat girl; Little Rosa, lilliputian; Luet Cook, giant; Jesse Feary, armless wonder; Lulu Ward, dancing skeleton; and a Punch-and-Judy as attractions. A stage performance is also given, in which Jennie Elkins, Lulu Ward, Billy McCarthy, Barry Stanwood, Frank Skelly and William Green appear.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—The newcomers are Eva Ross, Eugenie Chavallier, May Waldron, and Whiting and Ryder. Closed: Jennie Elkins, Tom Ward, and Jennings and O'Brien. Business fair.

BECKER'S ROYAL PALACE.—The latest additions are Minnie Dixon, Jennie Gray, Addie Adair and Jennette Norcrote. The Moore Sisters have closed.

PARK THEATRE.—Arrivals are Minnie Mead, Eugenie Chavallier [Also announced at Lyceum.—ED.], Mary E. Graft, Woodville and Drew and Kitty Drew. Closed: Belle Gray, McCoy and Lester, and Dolan and McCarty.

MASONIC HALL.—Zera, magician, with gifts, opened Dec. 16 for a short season. Fair attendance.

MEMORANDA.—Fifteen people of Lambert & Richardson's Combination, passing through from Texas to Mississippi, attended "The Shaughraun" at Academy 16.....The Hess Opera Company passed through on its way to Texas.....The management of the Japanese troupe, which closed at the St. Charles 15, had serious trouble with the Japanese performers. It came out that the highest salary paid any one of the performers was $5 per week.

CALIFORNIA.

San Francisco.—At the Baldwin Theatre "The Ruling Passion" was produced Dec. 22. The principal role was ably filled by Jeffreys-Lewis. Public expectation had been raised too high, and long before the fall of the final curtain it was evident that the performance was a failure.

CALIFORNIA THEATRE.—"The Forty Thieves" is a failure. The people who witnessed it during the entire week would not make one good-sized audience.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—"The Seven Dwarfs" was to have been produced Dec. 24. [Owing to the severe storm our correspondent sent his telegraphic advices Sunday, Dec. 23, so as to make sure of their reaching us in time for this issue.—ED. CLIPPER.]

STANDARD THEATRE.—Emerson Minstrels continue to do a good business. The specialty performances are excellent, and the manager is sparing no pains to please.

BUSH-STREET THEATRE.—"Skipped by the Light of the Moon" has made a success. Seats are sold largely in advance of each performance.

TIVOLI OPERA-HOUSE.—An injunction having been obtained preventing the further production of "The Beggar-student," it was withdrawn, and "Cinderella" was to have been substituted 24.

PAVILION.—General Hancock was tendered a rousing reception here night of Dec. 20, and made a grateful speech.

DOTLETS.—The Emma Abbott Opera Co. is to follow Jeffreys-Lewis at the Baldwin in February.....Nellie Boyd contemplates retiring from the stage and purchasing a fruit-farm.... Concerning the death of F. M. Bates, the well-known actor, in Melbourne, Australia, some years ago, *The Melbbourne Telegraph*, by the last steamer, says: "A man named Knowles, a member of the Salvation Army, has confessed to Major Barker of the Salvation corps that he (Knowles) murdered F. M. Bates, the actor, some time ago." It will be remembered that one morning Mr. Bates was found dead in the street on the outskirts of town near an embankment. His watch and valuables were missing, and yet the inquest attributed the cause of his death to his having fallen from the embankment while intoxicated, he being greatly under the influence of liquor on the night in question. His wife always thought he was murdered..... Patsy Hogan has leased the Market street Theatre, and it is to be known as Hogan's Variety Theatre. Between the variety acts sparring and wrestling matches are to be given.....The company of the Grand Opera-house are to open in "Youth" in Oakland Dec. 24.....M. B. Leavitt is on his way hither..... Emerson's Minstrels have abandoned their proposed trip to Oregon in January.....Denis Kearney, who has stopped lecturing, is vending coffee and cakes on Ocean Beach, the opening of the new railroad to the sea having furnished a new field for liquor-dealers, hucksters' tents, etc.

COLORADO.

AT THE Tabor Opera-house, Denver, the Boston Ideal Opera Co. commenced a week's engagement Dec. 24. The sale of tickets has been the largest ever known here at ordinary prices. The Opera-house was closed during the past week.

RHODE ISLAND.

Providence.—During the past week the show business has been unusually dull. The two opera-houses were closed the latter portion of the week, something which has not occurred for ten years before at this season of the year.

LOW'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Mestayer's Tourists, under the management of A. S. Pennoyer, opened Dec. 24 for three nights. The attendance was fair. Frank Mayo is due Dec. 31, Jan. 1, 2, 3, 4. Kernells, Wheatley & Traynor's Co. 5. The American Band gave a sacred concert Dec. 23.

OPERA-HOUSE.—Dan Maguinnis was to have presented Fred Percy's romantic Irish drama "Carrick a Rede" for the first time on any stage Dec. 24; but, the scenery not having been finished, no performance was given. Announcement was made to-day, 25, that the drama will be presented at the matinee 25 and repeated to-night and 26. The following is the cast:

Dan Hoolagan....Dan Maguinnis	Jimmy the Fool..... Fred Peters
Phadrig Regan....C. J. Simmons	Larry Lannigan.....Jas. McDuff
Father Roche....Edwin Barbour	The Duke of Softington..F. Percy
Sir Fred'k Morris...L. Heywood	Kathleen.....Miss A. Harris
Lord Chief-justice....W. Adrian	Nora Shane.....Miss K. Davis
The Squireen....Arthur Moulton	Lady Alice....Miss B. Courtland
O'Rourke.....Harry D. Gale	Mrs. Regan..... Mrs. F. E. Wild
Somerhead.....Walter Keplinger	Nancy Casey....Mrs. M. Barbour
Sergeant.....Karl Walters	

Its title is derived from the name of a rock on the coast of County Antrim, Ireland, which is connected with the mainland by a rope-bridge over which the peasants pass to gather sea-gulls' eggs. The meaning of the title is the "Rock in the Road," so called because the salmon in going up the coast have to pass on either side of it. The play opens with the wedding of an Irish heiress, Lady Alice, with an English Baronet, during which his agent, who has fallen in love with the reigning belle of the village, endeavors to kiss her, but is prevented by the Phadrig Regan's foster-brother, Dan Hoolagan. A quarrel ensues, in which the Squireen is felled to the earth by Dan. From that time the Squireen plots with a rejected suitor to betray Regan into the hands of the Government by hiding arms in his potato-patch. They give information against him, he is arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to transportation. On the ship leaving the coast a sudden storm arises and all go down, except Regan, who, clinging to a spar, is saved by his foster-brother Dan, who takes him to the rock of "Carrick a Rede" and advises him to keep in hiding. While doing so the rejected suitor (who has persuaded Regan's sweetheart to follow him by telling her that Regan has been saved and is in hiding) and the girl cross the rope bridge to the Rock. There he betrays to her his purpose of carrying her away. A struggle ensues in which she is finally cast by him into the sea. This is witnessed by Regan from the cave high in the cliff, and by Dan from his boat. Both fail to reach her in time, but Regan intercepts the villain as he is about escaping by the rope-bridge, which he cuts, and the rejected suitor falls headlong into the sea. Dan reaches the spot where Kathleen disappeared, and leaps from his boat and brings her to the surface. He then takes her and Regan to the latter's forge, to which the Squireen repairs to obtain a shoe for his horse, not knowing of the smith's (Regan) safety. Another quarrel ensues between them, when the Squireen threatens to shoot Regan, but Dan, who has found the barrel of one of the loaded muskets, thrusts the breach in the fire. It becomes hot and explodes, the shot killing the Squireen, as the Baronet enters with Regan's pardon. Januauschek is due here Dec. 27, 28, 29 and Saturday matinee in "Marie Stuart," "Bleak House," "Mother and Son" and "Marianna." Gus Williams comes 31 for the week, Jan. 7, 8, 9. Haverly's Minstrels 10, 11, 12. Palmer & Daly's Co. in "Vacation" did well Dec. 17, 18, 19.

THEATRE COMIQUE.—The arrivals Dec. 24 were Harry G. Richmond's Specialty Co., including the Four Aces—Wayne, Wilson, Tierney and Gilson—Purvis Sisters, Fields and Hanson, Inman Sisters, Annie Livingstone, Venie White and Kelly and Magee. Departures 22: Redmond and Clifton, S. H. Berry, Dermott and Doyle, J. Arthur Doty, Rolmer and Leroux, Nellie Collins and John Purvis.

DREW'S DIME MUSEUM.—The arrivals Dec. 24 were Chang, Chinese giant, Charles and Henry Clarence White, Ashbury, Little Sophie Schultz, Master Sam Bishop, Zip, Mme. Rosse Callahan, Frisco Quartet, Sawyer, and Melrose and Dennis. The only departure were the Botacudos. This place still retains its foothold, and continues to delight the crowds who throng it daily.

AT MUSIC HALL "The Messiah" is to be sung Jan. 7 by the Mendelssohn Choral Society, assisted by the Germania Orchestra. A concert Dec. 21 by the American Band was well attended.

INFANTRY HALL.—One of the most enjoyable entertainments ever given in this city was that by the Boston Symphony Orchestra Dec. 19. The music was of the highest standard and was under the baton of Georg Henschel.

THE NEWPORT (R. I.) CHORAL SOCIETY gave its thirteenth concert at the Opera-house Dec. 18, under the direction of Prof. J. B. Sharland of Boston, Mass. The society was assisted by Miss Gertrude Franklin of Boston, Prof. Kenneth Price, U. S. A., Miss Bossy and Mrs. Russell Forsyth of this city, and Mrs. Little, wife of Lieut. W. McCarty Little, U. S. N. Mrs. Wilson Eyre was the pianist. The concert was purely in keeping with the many excellent records made by this flourishing organization in the past. The society is a credit to the city and its conductor.

IOWA.

Council Bluffs.—Smith's "Uncle Tom" Co. is due [Name of theatre not given—ED. CLIPPER] Dec. 25, to be followed by a Madison-square Theatre Co. in "Esmeralda" 27. "The Devil's Auction" Co. played 17 to big houses under difficulties, as they could not use their scenery on the stage, the intention being when they booked of playing in Dohany's New Opera-house, which will not be finished before some time in January.....At the Gem Palace Theatre the arrivals 24 were Bartlett and Fisher, Lillie Carroll, Ace Leroy, Lulu Masters, Wiley and Lulu Hamilton and Howard and Alton. Departures 22: The Powerses, Tommy Haywood, Maggie Moore and Sergt. George W. Labree. Business good.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington.—Brooks & Dickson's Co. presented "In the Ranks" 24 to a fair-sized audience. It is not announced what the attraction for 31 will be, as it is possible that "In the Ranks" may continue for a second week. James O'Neil and his "Monte Cristo" Combination attracted fairly only the past week.

FORD'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Barry and Fay commenced a week's engagement in "Irish Aristocracy" 24 before a comfortably-filled house. Mestayer & Barton's "Hix's Fix" Co. is announced for 31. Emerson's Concert Troupe did not attract large audiences the past week, but their performances deserved a larger patronage.

THEATRE COMIQUE.—Leavitt's All-star Specialty Company appeared 24 before a full house. Baylies & Kennedys' Bright Lights did a medium business the past week.

LINCOLN HALL.—Theodore Thomas' Orchestra, assisted by Madame Gabriella Boema, will appear in concert Christmas-night.

THE DIME MUSEUM was crowded the past week. The fresh attractions 24 were the Snake-charmer, Bearded Woman, the Ryans, Elwood, Diabolo, Madame Devene and Herr Vermillan.

WRIGHT'S DIME MUSEUM has done a fair business for a new enterprise. The announcements for 25 were Alf Burnett, Helen Nash, Major Littlefinger and wife and Nellie Martin. The music at this establishment is furnished by the Marine Band.

CANADA.

Montreal.—At the Academy of Music Mapleson's Opera Co. opened Dec. 24 for three performances. Robertson's "Parisian Romance" Co., with Richard Mansfield, appeared to good houses during the week ending 22.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Harry Miner's Comedy Four Combination began Dec. 24 for a week. Hyde & Behman's Specialty Company closed a week's engagement 22, having played to moderate business.

DIME MUSEUM.—An attractive programme is being presented the current week.

DIME PARLOUR (Canadian Institute).—This is a new place of amusement, having been opened to the public 17, a first-class variety bill being presented.

AT THE GRAND OPERA-HOUSE, Toronto, Ada Gray and company opened Dec. 24, for one week. The Howard Athenæum Specialty Company closed 22. Business light....At the Royal Museum business keeps good. Arrived: Mlle. Yeo, Udell and Pearce, Jas. McLaren, Master Farmen and "Hercules" Gafney.

KENTUCKY.

Louisville.—"The Lights o' London" Co. is at Macauley's Theatre this week. Richard Mansfield in "A Parisian Romance" opens Dec. 31. Joe Jefferson played to comfortably filled houses last week.

MASONIC TEMPLE.—Claire Scott opened Dec. 17 for one week, but, owing to a bad cold and small houses, she played only three nights.

BUCKINGHAM THEATRE.—Evans, Bryant & Hoey's Meteors are the attraction this week. "The Two Johns'" Co. had good houses last week.

OHIO.

Cincinnati.—The terrific rainstorm of last night, Dec. 23, turning the foot of snow into slush, almost closed the Sunday-night theatres. Nat Goodwin, "Her Atonement," "The Black Crook" and the Meteors, all together, had less than five hundred people. To-night, 24, all the houses are light. "Monte Cristo," however, has made a tremendous hit. The poor street-car accommodations and Christmas shopping have sadly interfered to-night.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—As had been predicted in last Monday night's dispatch, business with Ferguson's "Friendly Tip" fell off rapidly after the first two nights. There was not enough in the piece or the company to hold the splendid business which Kelly & Lewis' fine advertising-work brought to it the first two nights. It had previously been compared with "Bunch of Keys" and "Skipped by the Light of the Moon," and its opening business was as good as that done by either Sanger or Harrison on previous dates; but, unlike those two pieces, it had not the merit to hold public favor. It, however, did better, averaging up the week, than anything else in the city. Business was poor at every theatre, and in some instances the patronage was beggarly. But this has always been the case here during the week before Christmas. Besides, the heavy snows of the week practically shut out all suburban residents, as street-car travel was seriously interfered with, and the suburban patronage of theatres is considerable. The present week, however, Managers Miles & Lewis will probably even up accounts, for those favorites Mr. and Mrs. Nat Goodwin are furnishing holiday entertainment. They opened Sunday night, Dec. 23.

ROBINSON'S OPERA-HOUSE had on its stage last week the most meritorious of all the theatrical entertainments presented here, Rose Eytinge and her fine company in Shakespeare's "Winter's Tale." And yet she did about the worst business imaginable. It is pretty safe to say that she did not draw an average of $200 a night; but her audiences, though small, were of the best class and very enthusiastic. The company played through the week with as much care as though every seat had been filled. This week James O'Neil, with Stetson's "Monte Cristo" Company, occupies the stage. The cast includes Frederick De Belleville, George C. Boniface, J. V. Melton, J. W. Shannon and others.

HEUCK'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Harry Meredith's "Ranch 10" Company did pretty well, closing with a matinee 23, but not so well as they deserved. This house, like all the rest, felt the effects of the Christmas-tide. Manager Fennessey, however, intends to even up this week with Kiralfys' "Black Crook," mounted most magnificently, which opened Sunday night, 23.

HAVLIN'S THEATRE.—J. W. Ransone's "Across the Atlantic" did fairly well—better than the company deserved. The star was fairly successful, but his support was about as bad as is often seen. Had it not been for the local popularity of Manager Havlin and his theatre the play would have almost swamped. This week a strong card is offered in "Her Atonement," which was produced Sunday night, 23.

THE PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—Last week we had the Fay Templeton Opera Company, and, though it was one of the best of its kind that has visited us for a year, they fared rather ill at the hands of the public. It was probably a mistake to put them into this house, where of late so much variety business has been seen. If they could be brought back later to Heuck's, the company would in all probability draw well. This week Hanley's "McSorley's Inflation" Company are delighting the multitude. They opened Sunday night, 23.

VINE-STREET OPERA-HOUSE.—Some of the old-time sensational business has been introduced, and is doing a better business. The Living Statues have been followed by a folly dance, said to be quite suggestive. Manager Gabriel will probably stick to the sensational hereafter, sandwiching in some of the best cards in the vaudeville line.

HARRIS' MUSEUM.—This place has been crowded day and night. It is doubtful whether all can be accommodated this holiday-week. The attractions this week are Wild Men of Borneo, Kemper Ladies' Orchestra, Melton and Dean in parlor gymnastics, Murphy and Miles, Irish comedians; Morton and Fisher, musical specialties, and Carroll's magical illusions.

PLUM PUDDING.—The annual performance of "The Messiah" by Theodore Thomas and his New York Orchestra, assisted by the May Musical Festival Chorus, 600 strong, is to take place on Thursday night, Dec. 27, in Music Hall. The advance-sale of seats assures an attendance of six or seven thousand people. The great capacity of the hall permits the low price of one dollar for a reserved seat. On Monday night, Dec. 31, the Mammoth Minstrel Festival will open at Music Hall, to be continued through the week. Wm. Welch is the stage-manager, and R. C. Campbell business-manager. Prof. A. E. Carpenter is to give seances in psychology and mesmerism at Smith & Nixon's Hall. Last week Ed. L. Wilson occupied it with stereopticon views and lectures to accompany them.

Cleveland.—Baker and Farron in "Our Government-house" opened at the Euclid-avenue Opera-house Dec. 24 for one week, and had a big audience. Lawrence Barrett is due 31. Thatcher, Primrose & West's Minstrels had good houses last week.

PARK THEATRE.—"The Silver King" commenced a week's engagement 24 to a good audience. They will be followed by George Adams' Pantomime Company 31. Barlow, Wilson & Co.'s Minstrels closed a most successful engagement 21. Their stay was prolonged two nights longer than originally intended.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Shook & Collier's (Central) "Lights o' London" Company opened 24 for one week to a fair house. "Hoop of Gold" will commence a week's engagement 31. Draper's Double "U. T. C." did a light business last week.

CHAT.—Kiralfys' latest success, "Excelsior," will be produced at the Opera-house next month.....All the theatres will give Christmas-matinees.....E. Hanna will act as assistant-treasurer of the Opera-house, Mr. Nevins having resigned..... Frank Collins closed his engagement with Thatcher, Primrose & West 23. He left for New York, where he will receive medical treatment.....The Frohman Bros. have abandoned their intention to bring the Minstrel Festival to Cleveland. No suitable hall could be procured outside of the theatres, and dates could not be arranged with them.

FAY TEMPLETON AND W. H. WEST'S DIVORCE.—Newspapers here have been discussing the strange separation of Fay Templeton, the comic-opera star, and Billy West of Thatcher, Primrose & West's Minstrels, after two months of married life. Mr. West has given the following explanation to a reporter: "Soon after our marriage, while in Chicago, we discovered that there was an incompatibility of temper between us which would preclude the possibility of our ever being happy together. She is bright, vivacious, educated, a perfect little lady, with superior musical and vocal attainments, and in many respects my ideal wife, but I noticed that she hadn't that love for me that a wife should bear towards a husband. To tell the truth, we didn't understand each other perfectly. We hadn't been enough in each other's society before marriage, our only meetings being for a few weeks now and then in the Summer-vacation season. Besides, a woman who has been on the stage, petted and flattered, cannot easily throw off the taste for notice and adulation upon becoming a wife. So we agreed to disagree. It was a mutual arrangement entirely satisfactory to me, and, as far as I know, perfectly pleasing to her. There was no intense ill-feeling in the matter. I remember her kindly, and would speak to her if I met her. Neither one of us has sought, since our separation, to malign the other's character; neither had any reason to. There was no deception in the matter, no interference of people-in-law. We simply saw that we were not intended for one another, and that we would be happier apart. I expect to have my bill of divorce, for incompatibility and desertion, from a Chicago court the first week in January. New, affairs of this kind drive some fellows to drink, and break them all up, but I haven't as much as lost a night's sleep over it."

Columbus.—At Comstock's Opera-house Thatcher, Primrose & West opened Dec. 24 for two nights and Christmas-matinee. Salsbury's Troubadours 17, 18, did a good business, producing "Greenroom Fun" and "Three of a Kind." It was their first production here of the latter, and in comparison with their other plays it falls short of their standard. "The Hoop of Gold" Co. 21, 22, played to large and appreciative audiences. It was the first presentation of the piece here, and it well deserved the support it received. W. J. Ferguson's "Friendly Tip" Co. is to open 26 for two nights, to be followed by "Ranch 10" 28, 29, with matinee. The "Monte Cristo" Co., with James O'Neil in the cast, 31, for two nights and New-Year's matinee.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—Charlotte Thompson opened Dec. 24 for two nights, with Christmas-matinee. Oliver Doud Byron in "Across the Continent" Dec. 19 played to a large and enthusiastic audience. The Rentz-Santley Combination were received by a crowded house 20, Miss Alice Townsend carrying off the honors. Buffalo Bill in "Twenty Days, or Buffalo Bill's Pledge," 21, 22, with matinee, did a fair business, but was not received with the usual packed houses that greet that kind of drama here.

DIME MUSEUM.—Prof. Keller's Christmas extravaganza, produced by the ethescope, is the attraction in the auditorium this week. Prof. Sawyer left after a successful three weeks' engagement; also Capt. Chas. Young.

UTAH.

IN SALT LAKE CITY the Chicago Church-choir Opera Co. opened in Walker Opera-house Dec. 17 for a week. Business the first two nights was only fair.

Continued on page 692.

RATES.

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ADVERTISEMENTS SENT BY TELEGRAPH must reach here not later than 6 P. M. on Tuesday.

TO AVOID LOSS, when remitting money by mail, we would advise our patrons to register their letters or procure Post-office orders.

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JOHN EVANS, MANAGER,
P. O. Box 3,758 or CLIPPER BUILDING,
88 and 90 Centre street, New York.

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RICE'S SURPRISE PARTY in the musical comedy entertainment
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Popular Prices. Avoid Ticket-speculators.
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WANTED, A GOOD RESPONSIBLE SOBER MAN, with Five or Six Hundred Dollars AS PARTNER to act as TREASURER with RICE'S "PLEASURE PARTY," to take the road about March 1, 1884. Address F. H. RICE,
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When last heard from he was in New Orleans, La.
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Telegraph to Tuscaloosa, Ala. Write to Gadsden, Ala. W. A. Mack, communicate. 41-1t

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Does the best, liveliest, most wonderful and laughable of all magic acts, introducing novelties never before attempted.
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New and handsome costumes add a charming effect to the piece, which, in its present form, runs about 35 minutes and affords ample opportunities for the introduction of the
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It is Mrs. Hollywood's desire to make dates for her company with managers of first-class variety theatres and museums. "CINDERELLA" has been running for a number of nights past at HAGER, CAMPBELL & CO.'S MUSEUM, Philadelphia, and the endorsement of the house appears in the following card:
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Respectfully, HAGER, CAMPBELL & CO.
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SILBONS.
Les plus fort au monde! Sans egal! Did a crowded business the two worst weeks in the year at the Monumental Theatre, Baltimore, and the Grand Central, Philadelphia. Ask Managers Kernan, Gilmore and Tony Denier what the Silbons are. It is very slow to make business at first, but we have conquered in every country in Europe, and before we leave the United States there shall be but one cry: The Silbons are the greatest in the world. Nothing has been seen like them. It is a perfect act of marvels. Albany, Brooklyn, etc., to follow. Only a few dates open. 41-1t*

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HIS VIEWS ON THE
"TARIFF"
KNOCKED-OUT
SUN-SET COX, SAM RANDALL, SENATOR BECK AND JOHN CARLISLE.
His Speech and Act a Grand Success.
BARTON & LOGAN.
Baltimore Dec. 24, New York 31. Jan. 7 open. 41-1t*

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COCKERS, TAKE NOTICE.
Game Fowls for the Pit—Cocks, $5; Stags, $3; Hens, $2—from the only importer and breeder of game fowls in Pennsylvania.
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$600 PAID FOR 1854 DOLLAR. $15 for 1854, 1852 or 1851 Dollar. Coins wanted. Our new 1884 book out, showing our prices for all coins, etc., mailed for 25c.; shows our buying and selling prices. MASON'S Coin Depot, 735 Washington st., Boston, Mass. [1t*
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PYE-O-PYE, MY BABY SWEET.

BROKEN-GERMAN LULLABY.

To all funny leetle babies, aged about two years und a couble of inches, dis is resbectually inschribed by de author, who, he beliefs, vas vonce von of dot leetle gang himself.

WRITTEN AND COMPOSED FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER
BY CHAS. M. CONNOLLY.

Andante Moderato semplice.
1. Pye - o - pye, my ba - by sweet, Pye - o - pye, shmall dai - sy; Rest you now, de
2. Pye - o - pye, my ba - by sweet, Pye-pye now till morn-ing; Don't you ope dot
night vas come, Dhem eye-lids soon droop la - zy; Shtop, quick out dot large shmall tongue,
shmall plack eye, Till day-proke dot vas dawn-ing; Vhen dot comes I'll voke you out,
Shtop dot life-ly crow-ing; Rest dot hands and rest dot feet, To shleeb now quick you'm going.
Dhen quick we'll been playing; But, yoost now 'twas time to rest, So hark me vat I'm say-ing:
Shleep light-ly, dream bright-ly, Vhen down I lay thee;
In sweet re-pose shlum-ber, Ba-by, O sweet ba-by!
Pye - o - pye, my ba - by sweet, Pye - o - pye, shmall dai - sy;
Rest you now, de night vas come, Dhem eye-lids soon droop la - zy;
Shtop, quick out, dot large small tongue, Shtop dot life-ly crow-ing;
poco a poco ritard.
D.C.
Rest dot hands and rest dot feet, To shleeb quick now you'm go-ing.
ritard.
D.C.

THE LEGITIMATE

Dime Museum Theatre Royal

MONTREAL, P. Q. SEATING CAPACITY, 1,700.

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41-1t* SPARROW & JACOBS, Theatre Royal Museum, Montreal, P. Q.

VICTOR.

THE WONDERFUL ENGLISH CLOWN, has just arrived in time to join

MISS EMMA ALFREDO

THE ONLY LADY BAR PERFORMER IN THE WORLD. Will be at Pastor's Dec. 31, and will introduce Double Tricks done by no other female but her. Also their wonderful finish on the bar, Victor's Giant Swing on one side of the bar, Emma's Free Whirl on the other, both working on the bar at the same time. This difficult feat has never been accomplished by any other female living. Their wardrobe and apparatus is exceptiona. y fine. Hoboken Dec. 24, Pastor's Dec. 31, Albany Jan. 7, 1884. Address until Jan. 7, 30 Stanton street, New York City. 41-1t*

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JOHN **CORT and MURPHY** M. J.

IN THEIR VERY LATEST PRODUCTION

THE INVENTORS.

Also our latest songs: SOMETHING WE CAN'T DO WITHOUT, DON'T GIVE UP THE OLD PLAN FOR THE NEW, THE HOOSAC TUNNEL ROUTE, etc. P. S.—A certain party advertised on one of Harry Miner's hangers a song called FURNISHED ROOMS. We would respectfully notify him that the song and title belong to us, as we wrote and sang it two years ago and advertised it in THE CLIPPER.
P. S.—Regards to FLYNN and O'BRIEN. 41-1t*

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John and Jeffreys-Pendy

Original Specialty written for them by Thos. F. Sully of St. James Hall, London, Eng. 41-1t

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MATINEES EVERY DAY DURING THIS WEEK.
COMMENCING MONDAY, DEC. 24,
THE KERNELLS, WHEATLEY & TRAYNOR'S
GREAT SHOWS,
comprising the following great stars: Harry and John Kernell, Wheatley and Traynor, Kittie O'Neil, Olympia Quartet, the Maxwells, Flynn and O'Brien, O'Brien Bros., La Porte Sisters, McShane Bros., and FLANAGAN'S BALL.
POPULAR PRICES PREVAIL. 41-1t*

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POOLE & GILMORE.....Proprietors and Managers
RESERVED SEATS (Orchestra Circle and Balcony), 50c.
An Immediate and Positive Success,
THE PAVEMENTS OF PARIS.
THE PAVEMENTS OF PARIS.
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THE PAVEMENTS OF PARIS.
GREETED WITH ROARS OF APPLAUSE.
MATINEES WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2. 41-1t

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MINSTREL AND COMEDY THEATRE,
Broadway, bet. Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth streets.
MATINEE SATURDAY, AT 2.
First time of the Funny Farce
THE WALL-STREET CYCLONE.
THE WALL-STREET CYCLONE.
ALL BRAND-NEW THIS WEEK. [41-1t]
BIRCH.....as.....RUFUS HATCHET
DOUGHERTY.....as.....JAY GOULD

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.
Reserved seats (orchestra-circle and balcony), 50 cents.
ONE WEEK ONLY, BEGINNING MONDAY, DEC. 24,
HAZEL KIRKE,
HAZEL KIRKE,
HAZEL KIRKE,
with the best cast yet seen in this city.
Usual Matinee Saturday at 2.
Next Week. THE TOURISTS. Next Week.
Extra Holiday Matinee New-Year's Day. 41-1t

TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE, 14th st.
ALL THIS WEEK, a New Local Society Fancy, THE MOTHER GOOSE PARTY, OR CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK,
introducing a beautiful musical-noveity, The Nursery Rhyme Quadrille, Little Bo Peep, Little Red Riding Hood, Tommy Tucker, Little Johnny Horner, the Maid with the Milking-pail, and the familiar people of Mother Goose's rhymes, W. Carroll, F. and L. White, Harrington and Johnson, B. Kannells, the Murphys, Manning and Drew, the La Rue Family. Florence Irwin, Jennie Satterlee and Jacques Kruger. 41-1t

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Under the management of Mr. Augustin Daly. Orchestra, $1.50; Dress-circle, $1; Second-balcony, 50c. Every evening at 8 o'clock. Matinees begin at 2. SEVEN-TWENTY-EIGHT. "For three hours it keeps the audience in a state of UPROARIOUS MERRIMENT."—HERALD. Miss Ada Rehan, Miss Gilbert, Virginia Dreher, Helen Leyton, Mr. James Lewis, John Drew, Charles Leclercq, William Gilbert, Yorke Stephens, W. H. Thompson in principal parts.
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WALLACK'S THEATRE. SPECIAL
Proprietor and Manager.....Mr. LESTER WALLACK
(Mr. Lester Wallack has kindly donated the use of the theatre.)
THURSDAY AFTERNOON, December 27, at one o'clock,
GRAND BENEFIT MATINEE
FOR THE SUFFERERS BY THE LATE FIRE AT THE STANDARD THEATRE,
for which the following unparalleled programme has been arranged:
Recitation—Arthur Mathison's story of "The Little Hero".....Mr. W. E. Sheridan
Songs.....Mlle. Vanoni
The McCaull Opera-comique Company in second act of
"THE BEGGAR STUDENT."
Characters by Misses Bertha Ricci, Rose Leighton, Murtha Porteus, Hattie Richardson and Mathilde Cottrelly; Messrs. Fred'k Leslie, H. D. McDonough, Ellis Ryse, Chas. F. Parr and Wm. T. Carleton.
The Casino Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Jesse Williams.
Madison-square Theatre Company in second act of
"HAZEL KIRKE."
Characters by Miss Georgie Cayvan, Mrs. Cecile Rush, Miss Enid Leslie, Mr. J. J. Graham, W. H. Compton, W. B. Cahill.
Rice's Surprise Party in second act of
"POP."
Characters by John A. Mackay, Miss Kate Castleton, George Fortescue, Richard Gorman, W. H. West, Irene Perry, May Stembler, Josie Hall, Hanley Sisters and others.
Theatre Comique Company in Harrigan & Hart's latest success "HURRY, LITTLE CHILDREN."
Theatre Comique Orchestra, conducted by Dave Braham, the composer. Performed by Messrs. McBradley, D. Quilter, P. Goodrich, William Barlow, James Barlow, Joe Sparks, John Sparks and Emil Husel.
Recitation.....Miss Lizzie Harold
Selections.....'Bunch of Keys" Company
TONY PASTOR'S ENTIRE COMPANY.
Selected Songs by Messrs. Digby Bell, Will S. Rising, Harry Pepper, Hubert Wilke and Miss Amy Gordon.
Specialties by Miss Ella Wesner, Sam Devere, Alice Hutchins, E. D. Davies
and
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Messrs. JESSE WILLIAMS, LUSCOMBE SEARELLE, GUSTAVE KERKER and DAVE BRAHAM.
The members of the Union-square Theatre, Fifth-avenue Theatre, "Sam'l of Posen" Combination, Oliver Doud Byron Co., and Edwin Booth Co. have also expressed their desire to appear.
REGULAR PRICES.
Admission.....50c. and $1
Seats.....50c. extra
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728 AND 730 BROADWAY, opposite New York Hotel.
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"A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL."
EIGHTH WEEK OF THE GREAT HIT OF THE SEASON,
EDWARD HARRIGAN'S LATEST SUCCESS
CORDELIA'S ASPIRATIONS.
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their Standard Comedy Company in their Original Impersonations.
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I fully corroborate Jas. S. Alexander's statement that Joseph J. Dowling and Sadie Hasson will NOT star the coming season in a composition entitled "Burr Oaks." There is an old-fashioned comedy-drama entitled "NOBODY'S CLAIM" (a financial success, by the way) that is quite good enough for the above ARTISTS. Managers seem to like the good old melodrama, too, as our times are rapidly filling for next season. And they are not demanding the first twenty-five hundred either, but are accepting us as a plain ordinary 50, 60 and 70 per cent. attraction. The reputation we have made in "NOBODY'S CLAIM" may not immortalize us, but it buys stock for the ranch, and we have just "QUIT" making reputation for Phenomenal Managers and Amateur Play-writers.
41-1t* Claimingly,
JOSEPH J. DOWLING.

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A pair of French barbs, with large rings around eyes. Have been performed in the open streets for one year. Come when called and are perfectly fearless. They count full cards from deck and kiss. Cock is almond color and hen black. Price, $15. Address "WILLETS," Allegheny City, Pa. 41-1t*

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The Horse with Eight Perfect Feet,
Cuts and Banners, five Spotted Ponies, Tents, Curiosities and Freaks.
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Commodore Foote and Sister
AMERICA'S MINIATURE SPECIALTY-ARTISTS.
Actually the two Smallest People now before the public. Still en route with WILL L. SMITH'S BELLRINGERS AND COMIC CONCERT COMPANY. 41-2t

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If you want a good business young man for a very low salary address me as above. 41-1t*

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AND, ON LUMINOUS WINGS,

SOARS PROUDLY ON TO VICTORY.

THE APPLAUSE OF HAPPY THOUSANDS

MAKE OUR EVENINGS A ROUND OF PLEASURE.

A SEA OF SMILING FACES EACH NIGHT BECOME

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BRILLIANT AS

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DEDICATE EVERY EFFORT TO THE PROPOSITION THAT COURTLY, REFINED AND ELEGANT MINSTRELSY WILL ALWAYS RECEIVE POPULAR APPROVAL, WHILE THE CHARM OF CREATIVE GENIUS IS HAPPILY INTERPRETED BY

THE ENERGETIC, TALENTED YOUNG MEN OF THE PROFESSION

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WHAT HAS HITHERTO [19-26t*]

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THERE IS NO MAN LIVING CAN DO WHAT I CAN DO WITH TIN PANS.

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Two good Specialty-artists who can work on end, good Banjo-soloist, and people for minstrel party forming in the West. Must be able to play in brass. Also wanted, Leader of Band and Orchestra, one who can arrange, and Musicians to play in string and brass. State lowest salary, and consider two weeks' silence a polite refusal. People must be fine dressers both on and off stage. Kickers or budgers not tolerated. Address MANAGER, P. O. Box 309, Elk River, Minn. 41-1t*

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Acts must be suited for lady audiences.

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A reward will be paid to any person who will give me the address of the present owners of the PANORAMAS entitled "PARADISE LOST" and the "APOCALYPSE, OR VISIONS OF ST. JOHN," or the address of William Mercer, the supposed owner of one or the other. Address M. F. BACHELDER, LOUDON VILLAGE, New Hampshire, Merrimack County. 41-2t

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would like to make an engagement for the coming season to play in sideshow in some good circus. Best of references given. Address BEN BECKER, Leader of Band, Dexter, Mich. 41-1t*

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Irish Vocalists and Dancers, late of Orton's Anglo-American Circus, can be engaged for season of 1884. Address WHITNEY BROS., care of CLIPPER. 41-1t*

GOOD AMATEUR MUSICIANS

who can read music readily and play both String and Brass accepted by minstrel party in the West. Those who are good singers preferred. Must be good dressers and temperate. Salary must be low, as it is sure. Address ARMINGTON, care CLIPPER. 41-1t*

RED, BLUE OR BLACK CLOGS, $3; 15-inch Song-and-dance Shoes, $5; Dutch Clogs, $2.50; Fright Wigs, $3.50; Burnt Cork, per box, 40c.; False Moustaches, 30c.; Rosewood Bones 60c.; Tambo, $3; Banjo, $3; Triangle, $1; Ocarina, $1.50; Fire-eating Preparation, per box, 30c.; Negro Wigs, $1 each; Plays, 15c. Dancing Made Easy, 25c. Negro Minstrel's Guide, 25c. Endmen Wigs, $1.50 each. Adah I. Menken's Life and Poems, 25c. Send stamp for Prices of Minstrel and Magic Goods, Musical Instruments, etc. Remit by P. O. order or registered letter to ED. JAMES & CO., CLIPPER Building, 88 and 90 Centre street, New York 1-1t

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Knockabout and Pantomime Clown,

wishes to return thanks to managers for their offers of engagement, as I have been engaged with Anderson & Co.'s Shows for 1884. 41-1t*

THREE TIMES THREE, AND A TIGER!

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Did not set upon a more complete and crushing victory than that achieved by

BARLOW, WILSON & CO.'S

MAMMOTH MINSTRELS

AT CLEVELAND LAST WEEK.

THE GLORIOUS STORY MAY BE BRIEFLY TOLD.

A presumptuous and unscrupulous enemy carefully selected their own ground, occupied it with their Bashi-basouk slanderers and braggart skirmishers two weeks in advance, and,

BLINDLY MAD WITH JEALOUS RAGE,

Rushed headlong into Ruinous Expense, and met a Bankrupt's death in the hopeless and insane attempt to "down"

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Positively the largest audiences ever assembled within its walls overcrowded the PARK THEATRE nightly to crown and recrown the 38 VICTORS with rapturous Encores, Laughter and Applause, and finally

THE PUBLIC PRESSURE COMPELLED THEM TO CANCEL ALL DATES ELSEWHERE,

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SOMETHING UNPARALLELED IN OPPOSITION,

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THE GRANDEST TRIUMPH OF ITS KIND,

And one exclusively their own, as they rented the theatre out-and-out, and did not play on shares.

In the words of the immortal Perry, whose statue faces the scene of our successive victories and ovations,

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THE CURTAIN NOW FALLS FOREVER UPON ALL WOULD-BE RIVALS,

A d ne raw, unfledged ingrate, who has mistaken his weak, inexperienced pin-feathers for managerial pi ions, and lies floundering on the dung-hill, whence he vainly thought to soar to heaven, may be charita ly left to nurse his galling wounds and vent his bitter curses in the shelter of that profound obscurity w ich he so naturally adorns, and from which it was an act of mistaken kindness for a fraternal hand to d ag him.

"WALTZ ME AGAIN."

H. J. CLAPHAM.

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FOR WEEKS OF DECEMBER 31, JANUARY 14 AND 21.

Address HYDE & BEHMAN,

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SENSATIONAL BURLESQUE SKETCH-ARTISTS, IN THEIR OWN ORIGINAL ACT.

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The science of self-defense with boxing-gloves, single-sticks or foils receives due attention, and we shall continue to publish reminiscences and records of the doings in the prize-ring, so that such of our readers as wish to do so can indulge their tastes in that direction, and so that some of the older patrons of sports "can in fancy fight their battles o'er again."

The turf, the trigger, bicycling, football, bowling, lacrosse, yachting, canoeing, swimming, rifle-shooting, ice-yachting, curling and skating are fully reported in our columns, and our readers can always depend upon being kept fully posted in regard to every legitimate sport of the day.

In addition to its specialties, THE CLIPPER often contains as many stories, sketches, etc., as can be found in a single number of the average story-paper.

The name CLIPPER, adopted when the American clipper-ship was a fit emblem of the supremacy of our merchant navy, has fastened on the minds of some the unwarrantable idea that the paper using such a title must be disreputably fast; but a careful reading will show that in cleanliness, knowledge of the varied matters discussed, and literary ability THE CLIPPER is more than the peer of any weekly journal in America that treats mainly of theatrical and sporting affairs.

Our business department shows that as an advertising medium THE CLIPPER is fully appreciated, and its wide range of circulation makes it a most valuable vehicle of intercommunication between advertisers and the public, outside of the large class of professionals to whom it is of special value. Rates can be found at the head of our advertising department.

Subscription, $4 Per Annum.

Single Copies, 10 Cents.

The Frank Queen Publishing Company (Limited), Proprietors.

Address CLIPPER Building,

88 and 90 Centre street, New York, or P. O. Box 3,758.

NOTICE.

THE

NEW YORK CLIPPER ANNUAL

FOR 1884.

Instead of issuing an Almanac in January, as has been our custom every year since 1874, we shall publish our Annual for 1884 in March, as we are led to think that THE RECORDS OF FASTEST TIME AND BEST PERFORMANCES and THE CHRONOLOGIES, completed up to that date, will be much more useful and more acceptable then, just before the opening of the outdoor sporting season, than if given during holiday times, when there is less general interest manifested in athletic matters by that large class of readers who look upon the Annual as A STANDARD HANDBOOK OF ALL LEGITIMATE SPORTS AND PASTIMES. We are of opinion, too, that that other large section of our readers who have yearly welcomed THE ALMANAC on account of its theatrical records will also be pleased with the change, as it will enable us to place before them a condensed history of the doings in the amusement world for virtually the entire season of 1883-4, instead of stopping when but half the story is told, as we have had to do heretofore in ending the record in December.

THE CHRONOLOGY and other data referring to the theatrical season will be MUCH MORE COMPLETE IN THE 1884 ANNUAL than it has been in any of our preceding almanacs, and we shall publish THE RECORD OF DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION in it—instead of in THE CLIPPER, as has been our custom.

As THE CLIPPER ANNUAL is now firmly established and everywhere recognized as THE AMERICAN SPORTING AND THEATRICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA of the year, no pains or expense will be spared in making the next edition yet worthier of public confidence and esteem than the preceding issues. THE BOOK WILL BE ENLARGED by the addition of as many pages as may be necessary to give space to THE NEW FEATURES ADDED; and, instead of a paper cover, we shall give it a MORE SUBSTANTIAL BINDING, the suggestion having been made that so USEFUL A BOOK OF REFERENCE, which has to undergo very frequent handling, requires a more durable cover.

It is needless to expatiate on THE MERITS OF THE ANNUAL AS AN ADVERTISING MEDIUM, because it is well known by all our advertising patrons that its large circulation among the class of people who are interested in the specialties treated of by THE CLIPPER, as well as among a large circle of readers who are not so familiar with the paper, makes it one of the most valuable vehicles that can be selected to reach artists in any branch of the theatrical or general "show" professions, turfmen, athletes, oarsmen, baseball-players, marksmen and sportsmen generally.

RATES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE NEW YORK CLIPPER ANNUAL FOR 1884.

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WAR IN CLEVELAND.

Barlow & Wilson gave a good show, but candor compels the statement that the Thatcher, Primrose & West Company at the Opera-house is much the strongest organization.—CLEVELAND PRESS, Dec. 19.

WITH VICTORY PERCHED UPON OUR BANNER, WE SIGH FOR OTHER WORLDS TO CONQUER !!!

Thatcher, Primrose & West

AGAIN THE VICTORS.

NOT A FIGHT, BUT A MERCILESS ONSLAUGHT ON A WEAK AND DEMORALIZED FOE.

FROM OUT THE DIN OF BATTLE COME THEIR SUPPLICATING CRIES OF

Mercy! Mercy! Spare Us! Spare Us!

After lingering three days on quarter rations, the B. & W. GIFT SHOW, under the generalship of the renowned Fakir Magician

JOHN HENRY CLAPHAM, alias H. J., was compelled to remain two more days in the hope that our overflow would drop into their net, and thus enable them to totter out of town.

FIGURES DO NOT LIE.

THAT INFALLIBLE CRITIC THE BOX-OFFICE STILL PROCLAIMS OUR SUCCESS.

T., P. & W.	
MONDAY	$905 00
TUESDAY	878 75
WEDNESDAY	704 50
THURSDAY	685 25
FRIDAY	700 75
SATURDAY (MATINEE)	302 50
SATURDAY (NIGHT)	704 75
	$4,881.50

B. & W.

LESS THAN $2,000.00

FOR

FIVE NIGHTS AND ONE MATINEE.

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE LIBERAL PATRONAGE ACCORDED US BY THE CITIZENS OF CLEVELAND DURING OUR STAY, WE RESOLVED TO GIVE THE INMATES OF THE ORPHAN ASYLUMS A CHRISTMAS PRESENT IN THE WAY OF A FREE WEDNESDAY MATINEE, BUT AT THE REQUEST OF SEVERAL OF THE CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS WE POSTPONED OUR MATINEE UNTIL THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY, thus giving the members of our company an opportunity to witness the B. & W. "GIFT SHOW," and realize more fully the superiority of the organization with which they are connected.

Conscious of their own inability, they engaged Barnum's animal advertiser to write them up, and if he failed in making donkeys appear like lions what wonder—ink will not accomplish everything.

Realizing the failure of their advertisements and dodgers to arouse an interest in their show, they resort to the "Gift Enterprise," and a thousand and one other schemes now obsolete and long since buried in oblivion.

But do not blame them; it was the instinct of the DROWNING MAN GRASPING AT A STRAW.

In conclusion we will wager

$10,000.00

That we have the greatest and best Minstrel Company in existence.

$10,000.00

That it is a good bet, and

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More that we win it.

NEXT!!

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Our 1883 Catalogue of 228 large pages, 3,000 illustrations, with prices for all goods belonging to the theatrical and sporting-goods line, sent by mail for 15 cents. PECK & SNYDER,

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BARNUM AND LONDON SHOWS

will not visit certain localities. This is unjust, false and tricky, and will surely react on the perpetrators. We have many written proofs of this and the most reliable evidence of the fact. We are now making elaborate and expensive preparations to perform at every city in the Eastern, Middle and Western States during the season of 1884 which contains sufficient population to

Give us back our Daily Expenses, $6,800,

and we hereby caution all parties interested to beware of these false reports, which are detrimental to their business interests, as well as our own. The country is large and free, and every show, large or small, has the privilege to go where and when it likes. There is room for all, and we wish them success. We have never appropriated rights which we will not cheerfully accord to other honest showmen, but we do object to petty and irresponsible parties lying about us, meddling with our affairs and copying our features, bills and advertisements, and we are determined to protect our moral and legal rights. We settle our obligations

PROMPTLY AND WITHOUT WRANGLING,

deal fairly and squarely with everybody, do business in a legitimate and systematic manner, and have always kept faith with the public. We give an entire new show throughout every year, discarding all old stuff. We have the present Winter added

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The public, as well as ourselves, are aware of the fact that ours is the leading show of the universe. It is not only gigantic, but high-toned and moral above all others, and, although ours is the greatest exhibition in the world—the one most conspicuous and brilliant amusement enterprise on earth—we certainly feel most kindly disposed to all worthy and meritorious showmen of every clime.

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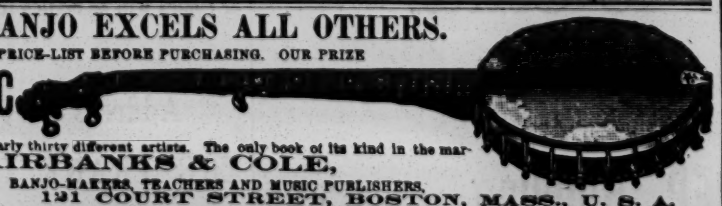

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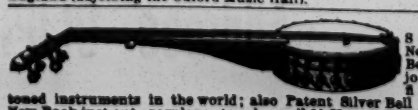

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